DEAR COMIC
夏目イサク
pitoshiyouno
naikeredo
1
どうしようもないけれど

PROFILE

07月30日生まれ　獅子座・O型

趣味　　読書と旅行。

好きな食べもの　　白米。

好きな色　　青。

今いちばん愛してるもの　　アロマ加湿器。

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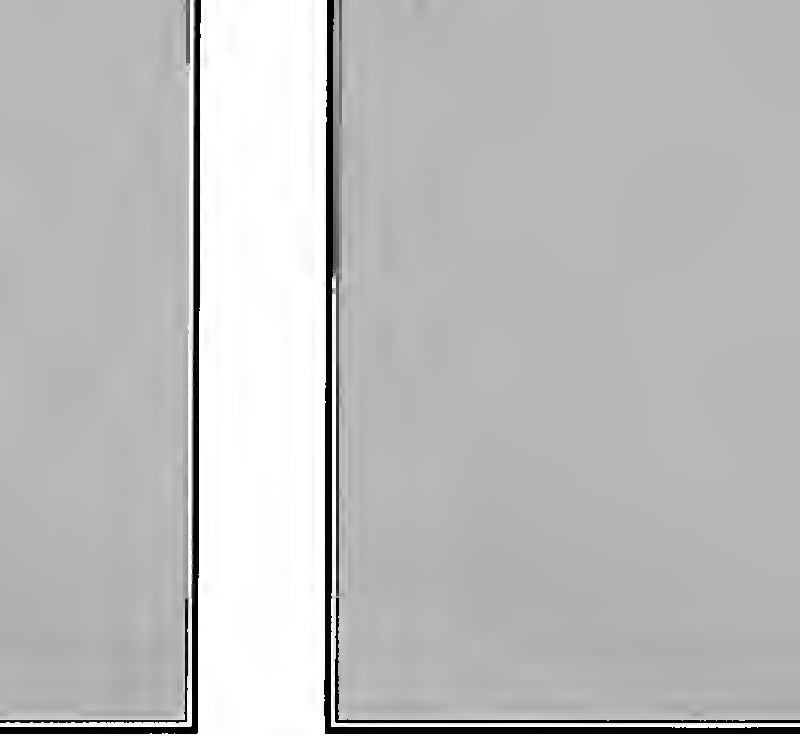
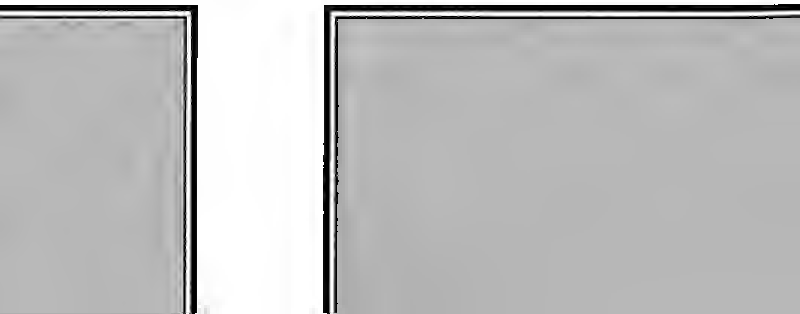


Dear+COMICS147/SHINSHOKAN

I Don't Need Your Pity!

ISAKU NATSUME PRESENTS



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DAME KONNICHI NO

KAORI NAKAJIMA PRESENTS

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SO LET IT START BETWEEN US FROM NOW ON 149
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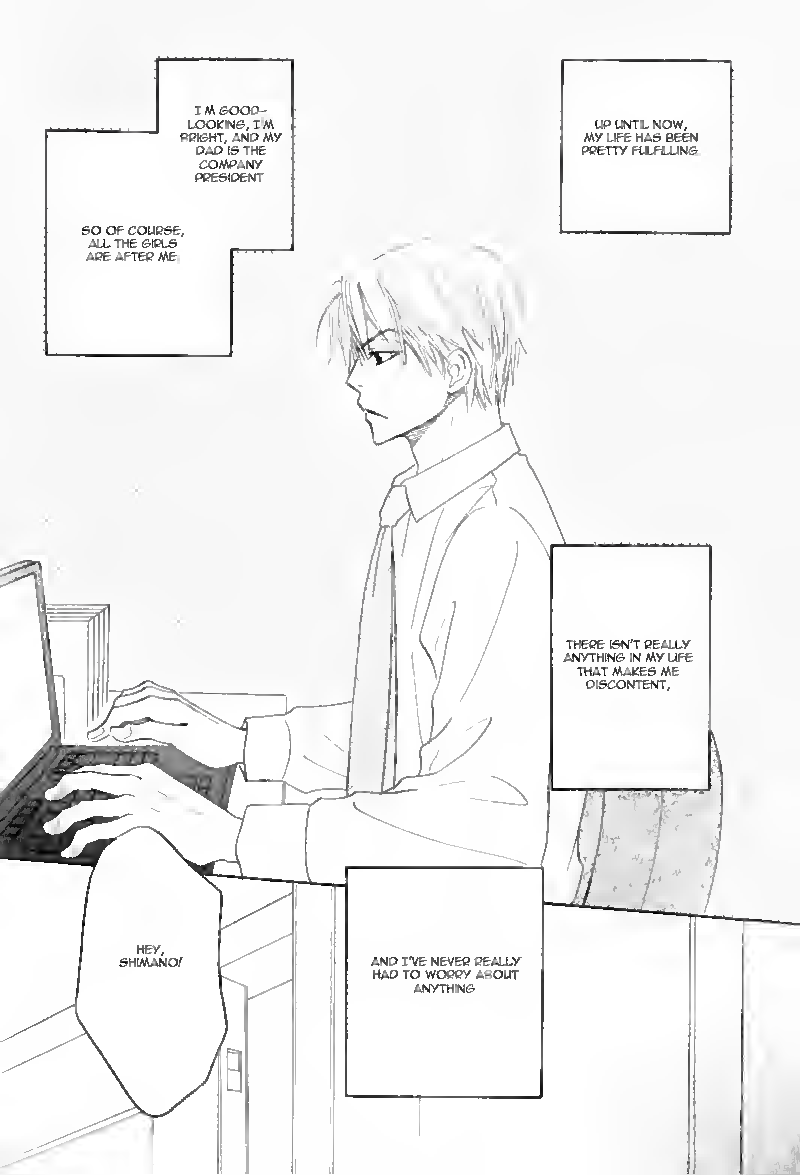
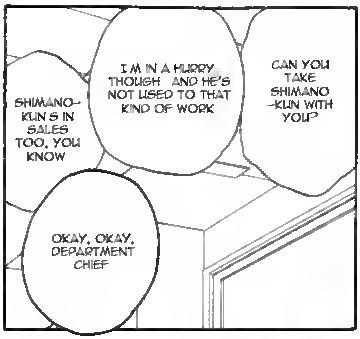
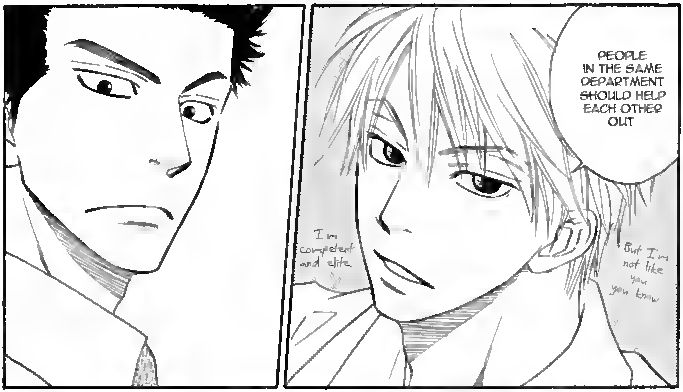
どうしようもないけど
I DON'T NEED YOUR PITY


I'M GOOD-LOOKING, I'M BRIGHT, AND MY DAD IS THE COMPANY PRESIDENT
SO OF COURSE, ALL THE GIRLS ARE AFTER ME.
UP UNTIL NOW, MY LIFE HAS BEEN PRETTY FULFILLING.
THERE ISN'T REALLY ANYTHING IN MY LIFE THAT MAKES ME DISCONTENT,
AND I'VE NEVER REALLY HAD TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING
HEY, SHIMANO!

EXCEPT THIS GUY.
HURRY UP, I'M LEAVING!
HOW MUCH LONGER IS IT GOING TO TAKE YOU TO FINISH?
You're sure you'd rat slacking
KUH
THESE ARE THE ORDER FORMS FOR OOBAYASHI FIRM,
AND I'LL HAVE THE INFO FINISHED UP FOR THE OTHER EIGHT FACTORIES BY NOON
Thud
OH-
HAVE YOU CONTACTED YASUDA-SAN YET?
YES, IT'S DONE
OH

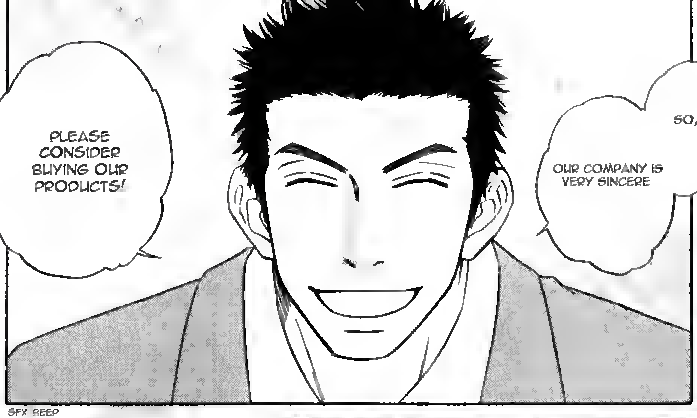

I'M IN A HURRY THOUGH AND HE'S NOT USED TO THAT KIND OF WORK
CAN YOU TAKE SHIMANO-KUN WITH YOU?
SHIMANO-KUN'S IN SALES TOO, YOU KNOW
OKAY, OKAY, DEPARTMENT CHIEF

KUROKAWA KUROKAWA!
ALRIGHT, I'M OFF THEN!

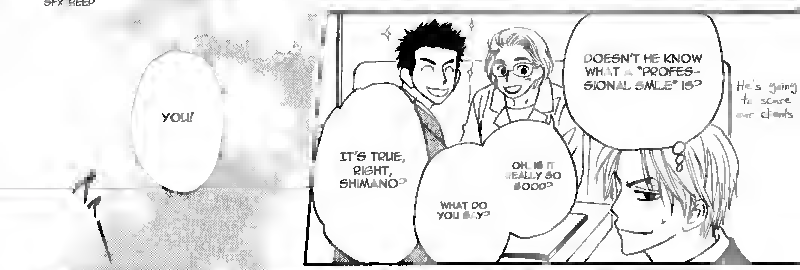

PEOPLE IN THE SAME DEPARTMENT SHOULD HELP EACH OTHER OUT
I'm competent and elite.
But I'm not like you, you know.

OKAY, HE CAN BE MY SUBORDINATE
IDIOT WHO THINKS HE'S ALL THAT
NO, SHIMANO-KUN'S SUPPOSED TO HELP YOU

PLEASED TO MEET YOU
I GOT PUT IN THE SAME GROUP AS HE WAS BECAUSE HE HAD THE BEST RECORD, AND HE WAS OLD FRIENDS WITH MY DAD
WHEN I WAS FIRST TRANSFERRED TO SALES,
This is my drunk my buddy Kurokawa
Kurokawa, this is my son
Drunk buddy!?
MY FIRST IMPRESSION OF HIM WAS PRETTY GOOD
YOU TOO
OF COURSE, I ALSO WANT TO FIND A NICE, UNDERSTANDING WIFE WHO WILL BE HELPFUL TO MY WORK IN THE FUTURE
FOR THE SAKE OF MY FUTURE I HAVE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY COMPANY, WHICH IS WHY I'M WORKING HERE
Shimura-san's a real manager
Future President!
Shimura-san!
THERE ARE TONS OF PEOPLE HERE WITH NOTHING TO DO!
PHOTOCOPY THIS
SO ORGANIZE THIS
BUT WHEN WE ACTUALLY STARTED WORKING TOGETHER
HAND THIS IN FOR ME
Kya, kya, so handsome!
MAKE ME COFFEE
IT WAS DEFINITELY NOT SO I COULD GET ORDERED AROUND BY THIS APE
HE'S RUSHING ME AGAIN!
What are you doing, dear?
Let's go

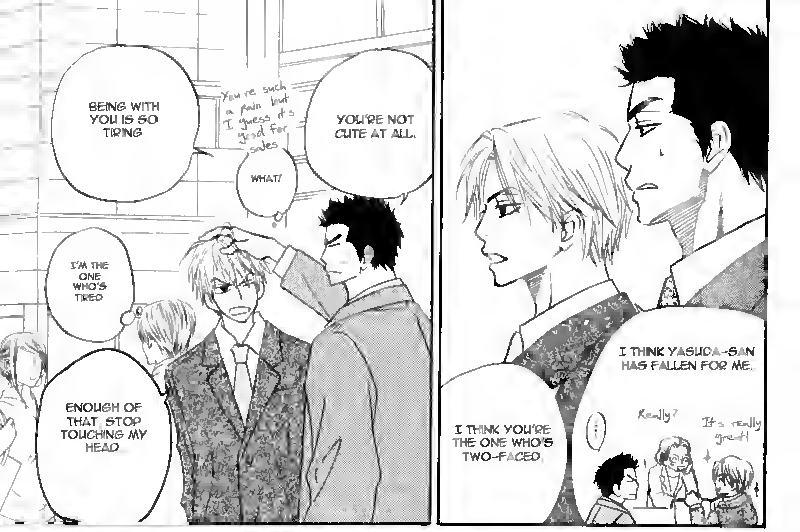

PLEASE CONSIDER BUYING OUR PRODUCTS!
SO, OUR COMPANY IS VERY SINCERE

SFX: BEEP

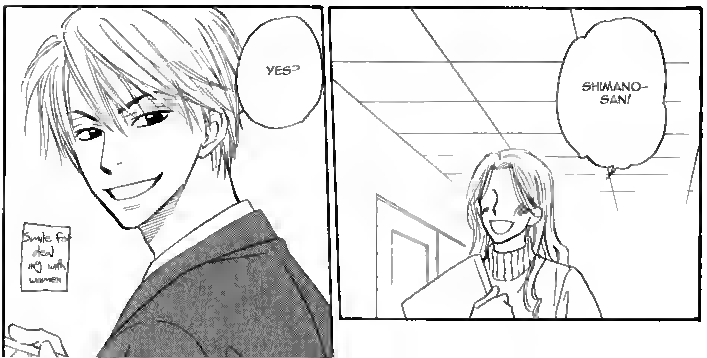

YOU!
IT'S TRUE, RIGHT, SHIMANO?
WHAT DO YOU M■Y?
OH, ■T REALLY SO ■OOO?
DOESN'T HE KNOW WHAT A "PROFESSIONAL SMILE" IS?
He's going to scare our clients

KUROKAWA -SAN, YOU'RE TOTALLY TWO-FACED. IT'S REALLY SOMETHING
SHUT UP
IT WAS ALL THANKS TO ME THAT THE DEAL WENT THROUGH.

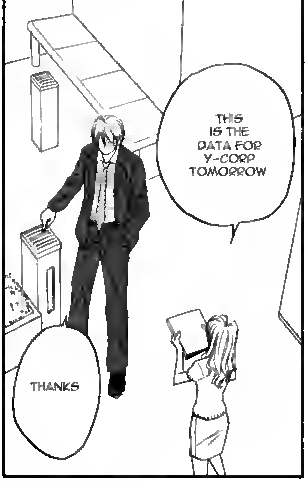
SORRY
FOCUS WHEN YOU'RE AT WORK.
WHY WERE YOU DAY-DREAMING BACK THERE?


BEING WITH YOU IS SO TIRING
You're such a pain but I guess it's good for sales
YOU'RE NOT CUTE AT ALL.
WHAT?
I'M THE ONE WHO'S TIRED
ENOUGH OF THAT. STOP TOUCHING MY HEAD.
I THINK YASUDA-SAN HAS FALLEN FOR ME.
I THINK YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S TWO-FACED.
Really?
It's really great!

OUR SALES RECORD KEEPS IMPROVING
That's my line
I'm tired of arguing with you
Let's go back
BECAUSE OF THE WORKFORCE REDISTRIBU-TION MY FATHER ORGANIZED


YES?
Smyle. I've class with my women
SHIMANO-SAN!

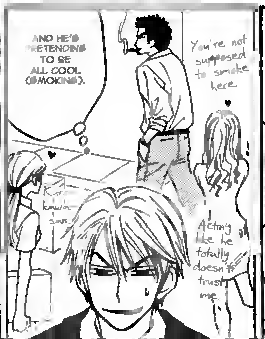
BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T HERE JUST NOW, KUROKAWA-SAN
WHAT, IN THE END WE'RE LETTING SHIMANO GO?
Where'd he come from?
I CAN HANDLE IT
AH, KUROKAWA-SAN WANTS TO HELP TOO?


THIS IS THE DATA FOR Y-CORP TOMORROW
THANKS

I DON'T KNOW WHY, EITHER. BUT I FEEL AGITATED.
THAT'S HOW I ALWAYS FEEL WHEN I'M WITH HIM.

I CAN HANDLE IT ON MY OWN.
ARE YOU LOOKING DOWN ON ME?
NO. I'M NOT REALLY SURE IT'S A GOOD IDEA. WILL YOU BE OKAY?

SFX: PAT


AND HE'S PRETENDING TO BE ALL COOL (SMOKING).
You're not supposed to smoke here.
I Acting like he totally doesn't trust me.

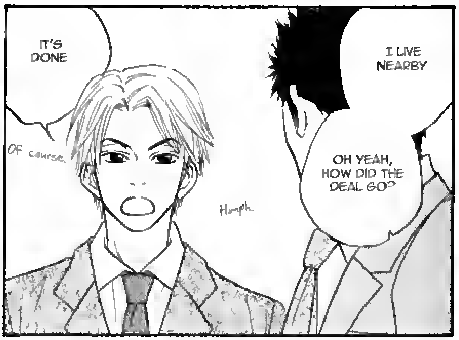
YEAH, WORK HARD
WORK HARD, THEN!

IT'S DONE
Negotiations went through
HM?
PHEW

WHY ARE YOU HERE?
OH, MEETING WITH CLIENTS?
Good job
OH, RIGHT, KUROKAWA-SAN, WHY ARE YOU HERE?

SHIMANO?
WHOA!?

THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK TOO
NOT BAD
You're pretty good
HEY HEY


IT'S DONE
I LIVE NEARBY
OF course.
Humph.
OH YEAH, HOW DID THE DEAL GO?

OH, ISN'T IT FAR AWAY FROM HERE THEN?
IT'S OKAY NOT REALLY THAT FAR
A TAXI RIDE WOULD COST 30,000 YEN MAX.
*ABOUT 300 USD
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET BACK?
THE LAST TRAIN LEFT
WHAT, REALLY?
THEN I'LL TAKE A TAXI
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? WITH THE PRESIDENT?
I MOVED OUT...
BUT IT'S PRETTY CLOSE TO MY FAMILY
IF YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND THAT MUCH MONEY TO GET HOME,
HUH?
What did you just say!?
WHY DON'T YOU COME STAY OVER-NIGHT AT MY PLACE?
WHAT!?
WHAT?
COME TO MY PLACE.

どよーん

CHANGE TO-MORROW
HEY HEY, IT'S OKAY! I DIDN'T BRING A CHANGE OF CLOTHES!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY A TASTE OF THE COMMONERS' LIFESTYLE?
WAIT!
I don't want to

I THINK I'LL GO BACK NOW
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT YOUSE ALREADY HERE.

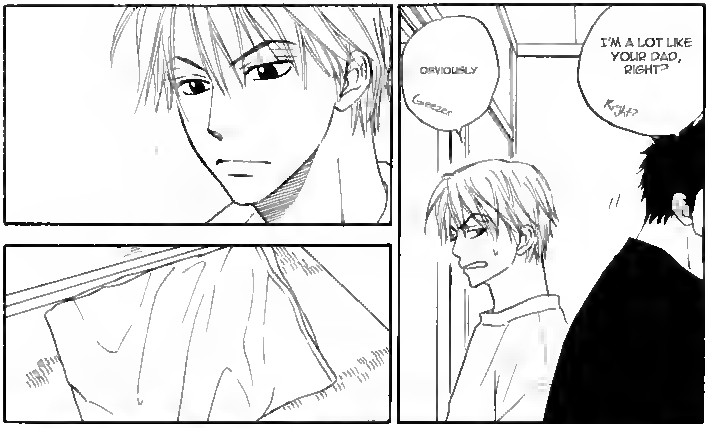
SFX: CLING
ぐいっ

WHOA, IT STINKS!
DOES THIS EVEN QUALIFY AS A HUMAN HABITAT?
Oh, I forgot to dump it
THIS IS WHERE THE COMPANY'S BEST SALESPERSON LIVES?
NO WAY
UH ...
MAY I... CLEAN UP YOUR KITCHEN...?
IS THIS REALLY A HUMAN HOME!?
I can't
HUH? ALIVE.
THEN I'M GOING TO TAKE A BATH FIRST.
JUST FIND A PLACE TO SIT.
HIS HOBBIES ARE JUST LIKE DAD'S
It's all Japanese liquor
Has a lot if his dead a place to...

IF DAD LIVED ALONE, WOULD OUR PLACE BE LIKE THAT TOO ?
Phew
scuttle
WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS!?
gross
HEY, SHIMANO
clack
THIS ISN'T HIS WIFE, IS IT?
The rumours were true.
I DIDN'T THINK HE REALLY LIVED ALONE.

CAN'T YOU COVER UP WITH A TOWEL OR SOMETHING!?
WHY ARE YOU SO SURPRISED?
It's not like you're a woman
Thwap
Sur prised by his sudden affirmance.
CAN YOU GRAB ME THE TOWEL OVER THERE?
WHOA!
NO WAY!
WHOA. NO WAY! I HAVEN'T SEEN MY KITCHEN THIS CLEAN IN TWO YEARS!
All the garbage is gone!
WHY DIDN'T I JUST SNEAK HOME WHILE HE WAS TAKING HIS BATH?
Why am I showering here?
WAIT A SECOND
Zaa

IT'S ALL BECAUSE HE'S FORCING ME TO STAY OVER
I BET HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE EXTRA BLANKETS FOR GUESTS
DONE? WANNA HAVE A DRINK?
NO THANKS
HEY

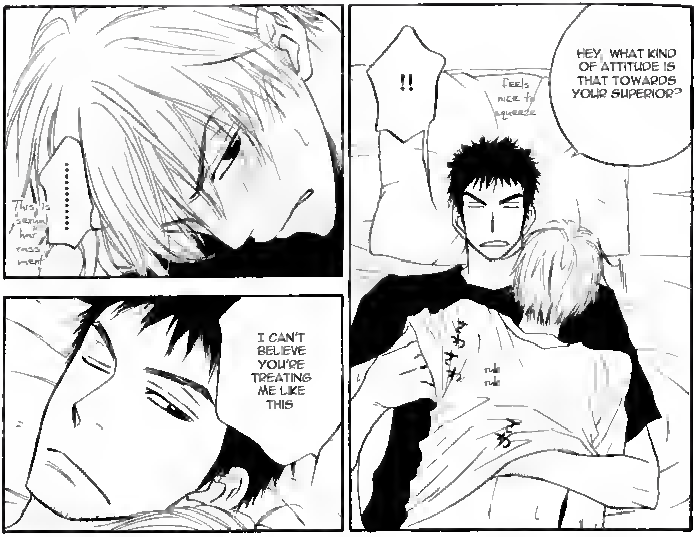

OBVIOUSLY
Geezer
I'M A LOT LIKE YOUR DAD, RIGHT?
Right?

I DON'T HAVE ANY EXTRAS FOR GUESTS.
HM? USE THAT FOR YOUR BLANKET.
WHAT IS... THIS?
I KNEW IT!
frozen

I HAVE EXPENSIVE DOWN BLANKETS AT HOME!
I WOULDN'T HAVE COME EVEN IF HE KNELT AND BEGGED ME!
Good d? Go to sleep
Okay, we're done here
IF I KNEW IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS

HEY
AND THE AC IS ON FULL BLAST!
17°C
shiver
shiver
shiver
HEY, HEY!
WHAT?
YOU!!
If you're not even using the blanket then give it to me!
WHAT?
IT'S SO COLD I CAN'T SLEEP
LEMME SLEEP ON THE BED
AAH? ALL MY COLLEGE FRIENDS SLEEP ON THE FLOOR WHEN THEY COME OVER. WHY CAN'T YOU JUST LIVE WITH IT?
YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE EXTRA BLANKETS FOR GUESTS AND YOU WANT ME TO BELIEVE YOU HAVE FRIENDS!?
THEN AT LEAST LET ME HAVE THE BLANKET ..
YOU'RE SO ANNOYING
!?

SHK. THUD
HM.
WHAT THE!?
!?
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING!?
And I'm still cold!
LET ME GO!
THIS IS GREAT
So now you won't be cold
IT'S LIKE HUGGING ONE OF THOSE BIG PILLOWS


HEY, WHAT KIND OF ATTITUDE IS THAT TOWARDS YOUR SUPERIOR?
!!
Feels nice to squeeze
nuki nuki
.....
This is serious harassment
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE TREATING ME LIKE THIS

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SO IMMATURE
Jm
I OUGHT TO TELL ON YOU.
"DADDY, FIRE THAT GUY," RIGHT?

SHUT UP AND LET ME GO!
OH
IS YOUNG MASTER EMBARRASSED?
blush
I BET YOU'RE JUST LONELY
BECAUSE YOUR WIFE LEFT YOU
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO DESPERATE
YOU...
STOP SPEWING NONSENSE
I WAS RIGHT?
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THE CURRENT SITUATION?
?
SFX: SILENCE

WHAT THE..?
YOU'RE HARD
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
!?
THIS..
HEY, HEY!
WHY'D HE GO QUIET?
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

STOP IT
UHH

.....
...SO FAST

I'm calling the police!
I'M FILING A COMPLAINT!
DAMNIT, I'M GOING TO TELL MY DAD!
AH...
YOU...!
TOUCHING SOMEONE ELSE'S
I BET YOU'VE NEVER BEEN TOUCHED BY SOMEONE ELSE BEFORE
OKAY, THEN I'LL DO SOMETHING TO YOU THAT YOU WON'T DARE TELL ANYONE ABOUT
Waah
STOP! DON'T! I WON'T TELL ANY-ONE!
JUST KID-DING
Heh

OKAY, FINE, I'LL ADMIT YOU WERE RIGHT...
SORRY, OKAY?
But picking on you is so much fun

WELL? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO TELL THE POLICE?
I SCARED YOU? HOW CUTE
You're going to say you got molested by a guy?
I was just joking
YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR

I HAVE A LOT OF TROUBLE SLEEPING AT NIGHT

LIVING BY YOURSELF... REALLY IS KIND OF LONELY

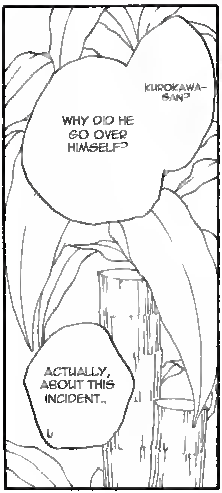
MY WIFE RAN OFF AND I'M LONELY DON'T YOU FEEL SORRY FOR ME?
I'M NOT A PILLOW!
You're a great pillow.
BUT TONIGHT YOU'RE WITH ME, SO I'M GOOD.

HE'S BEEN SITTING ALONE AT HOME DRINKING?
THESE LAST TWO YEARS ,,
You're sure good looking
HM
Snore

beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
OH MY GOD...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I FELL ASLEEP IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT...
So tired now...
GOOD MORNING.
YOU'RE LATE, KUROKAWA—!
SORRY!

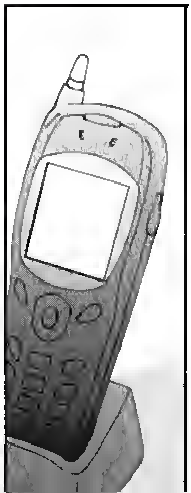
YOU...
HEY
third
WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, KUROKAWA-SAN?
HOW COME YOU TOOK OFF LIKE THAT BY YOURSELF?
CAN YOU PLEASE STOP DISTURBING MY WORK?
YOU'RE PRETTY HARSH
Pretending not to know
Hehe
Hehe
Hehe

I DON'T KNOW EITHER. BUT IT SEEMS LIKE THEY SUDDENLY HAD A CHANGE OF HEART...
Y-KAPANI COMPANY!? WHY ARE THEY SUD-DENLY...
WHAT?
THEY'RE NOT GOING TO SIGN THE CONTRACT?
BUT THEY ALREADY AGREED
YEAH. OH, SHIMANO-KUN,
DID YOU SAY ANYTHING WRONG WHEN YOU WERE MEETING WITH THEM LAST TIME?
.....
Said something wrong?
AH, I'M NOT BLAMING YOU
I DON'T THINK YOU MADE ANY MISTAKES
I WANT TO GO ONCE MORE.


KUROKAWA-SAN?
WHY DID HE GO OVER HIMSELF?
ACTUALLY, ABOUT THIS INCIDENT..

I DON'T REMEMBER ANY LAPSES IN MY ATTITUDE.
SHIMA NO-KUN!
NO MATTER WHAT THE REASON I WANT TO FIGURE IT OUT
KUROKAWA ALREADY RUSHED OVER THERE

HE TOLD ME NOT TO TELL YOU FOR NOW



Y-KAPAN! HAS AGREED TO SIGN THE CONTRACT WITH US AGAIN
GREAT, SHIMANO-KUN
Oooh
THAT'S GREAT!
OH, REALLY?

OH YEAH, KUROKAWA, LET'S GO HAVE A FEW DRINKS TONIGHT. EVERYONE CAN GO NOW
Still worried about it Kurokawa-san?
Hahaha
YEAH, NOW WE CAN RELAX.
THAT'S GREAT
I'M RELIEVED

Knock!
I'M BACK
Nobody's here?
Silence

clack
knock
PLEASE COME IN
knock
WHY IS THE YOUNG MASTER IN THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE WITHOUT PERMISSION?
It's you?
I HAVE THE KEY
I borrowed it from the sales department
YOU CALLED AND SAID YOU WERE WAITING?
PRESI-DENT
IT'S KUROKAWA HERE
YOU MADE ME WAIT FOR SO LONG

YOU WANT TO SLEEP HERE TONIGHT?

THIS IS
THANKS FOR... LAST TIME.
WHAT ARE YOU THINK-ING?
Then

HEY
OKAY
WHAT?
UHHH...
.....
HA!
.....
I WIN.

I CAN'T STAND YOU.
SO REMEMBER TO TAKE A LOOK TOMORROW
I PUT THE Y-KAWAII CONTRACT ON YOUR DESK
ha
WHY WON'T YOU LOOK AT ME?
HEY
HM?
IF I KEEP STARING AT YOU, YOU'LL FEEL EMBARRASSED
PROB-ABLY HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF PRIDE
ARROGANT SNOTS LIKE YOU
OH. 'CAUSE,
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

ARE YOU SO MATURE BECAUSE YOU'VE EXPERIENED A LOT OF FAILURES AND SETBACKS?
WHAT?
DON'T THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT IT
EVERYONE HAS FAILURES
SPLIT UP WITH YOUR EX-WIFE?
THAT'S WHY YOU
.....
YEAH.
WHY ARE YOU ASK-ING THIS?

BACK THEN, ALL I THOUGHT ABOUT WAS WORK
BY THE TIME I REALIZED SOMETHING WASN'T RIGHT, IT WAS TOO LATE.
Heh
MAYBE IF I GOT HER FLOWERS ONCE IN A WHILE,
WE WOULDN'T HAVE SPLIT UP.

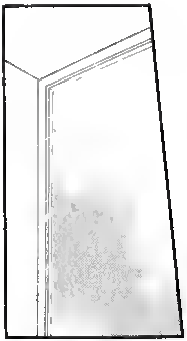
touched
I UNDERSTAND HOW HE FEELS
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
NOTHING
HEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
keels over
?
I SAID I WASN'T YOUR PILLOW
HM
WHENEVER I SEE YOU, I WANT TO SLEEP
AH
I CAN'T TAKE IT

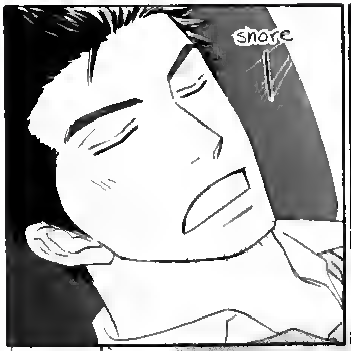
.....
DO YOU STILL
LOVE YOUR EX-WIFE?
AH
SHE WAS A GOOD WOMAN
I DIDN'T KNOW WHY I FELT THAT WAY
BUT I COULD FEEL A MILLION CONFLICTING EMOTIONS IN MY HEART

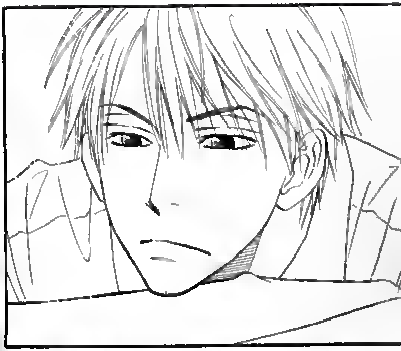
I'VE NEVER EVER

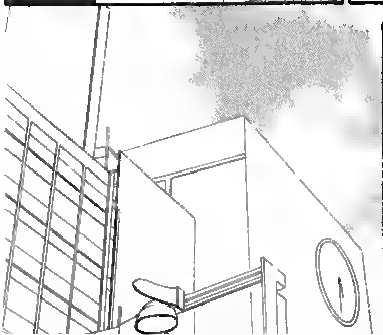
FELT LIKE THIS

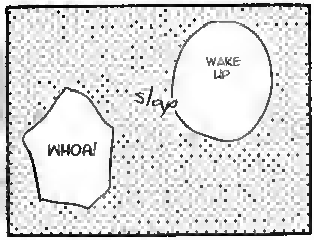
BEFORE

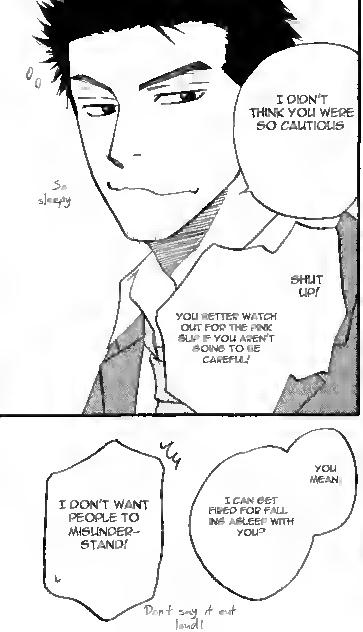






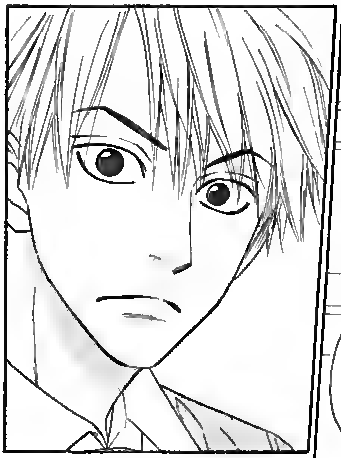





I DION'T THINK YOU WERE SO CAUTIOUS
So sleepy
SHUT UP!
YOU BETTER WATCH OUT FOR THE PINK SLIP IF YOU AREN'T GOING TO BE CAREFUL!

YOU, WHAT IF SOMEONE IN THE COMPANY SAW US?
WHAT IF MY DAD SAW?
He wakes up early
WHAT'S WRONG WITH LETTING ME SLEEP A LITTLE LONGER?
We could just stay overnight

I DON'T WANT PEOPLE TO MISUNDER-STAND!
Don't say it out loud!
I CAN GET FIRED FOR FALL ING ASLEEP WITH YOU?
YOU MEAN



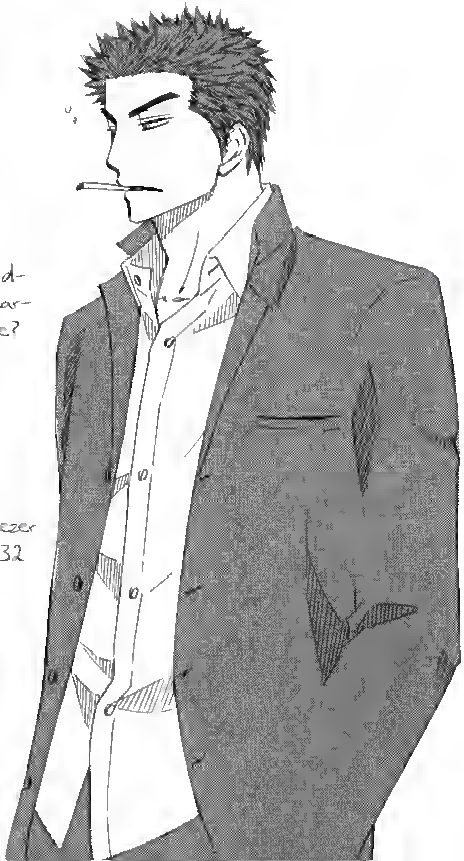
IF THEY MISUNDER-STAND
I'LL TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY

CAN'T YOU JUST GO BUY A PILLOW!?
And you're so good at cooking
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
AND IT'S NICE HUGGING YOU
I JUST WANT TO LIVE WITH YOU
AH...NOTHING
You
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

I MEAN, YOU'RE REALLY GREAT

Hey?
Yuuki
STOP SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
blush

SHOULD I TURN BACK BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE?
YOU...
THIS MIGHT BE THE FIRST TIME
I'VE EVER GOTTEN SERIOUS.
WHO THE HELL IS FEELING SHY?
YOU'RE SO CUTE
ARE YOU FEELING SHY?
End



Isn't he pretty handsome when he's wearing a shirt and tie? (laughs)

Kurokawa Akihiro

Looks like a geezer but he's only 32 years old

Doushiyoumo Nai Karedo

[illegible] Natsume Isaku

[illegible] Michi

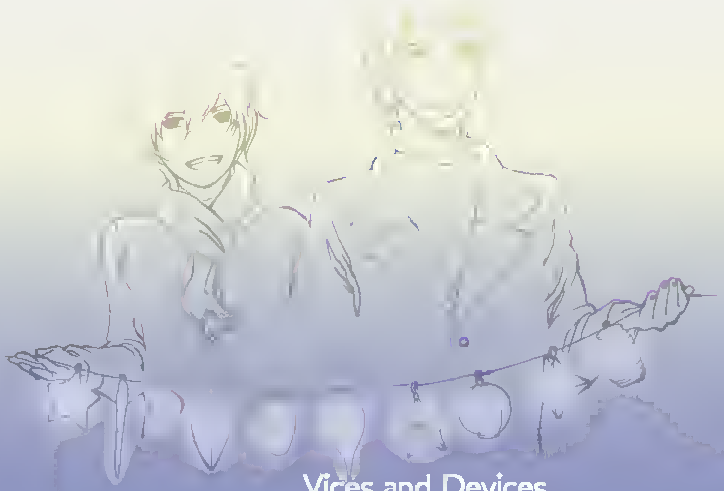
[illegible]or Michi

[illegible]per reader Schumacher

[illegible]ntor Nyang

[illegible]er Nuu, Nyang

[illegible] Kayi



Vices and Devices
http://www.vicesndevices.net

ホントのことはわからない
THE TRUTH IS CONFUSING

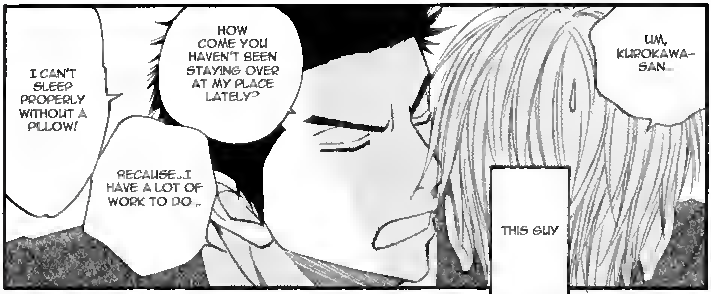
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE TARGET OF ENVY
SO I'LL TAKE THIS PROPOSAL TO THE K-COMPANY HEADQUARTERS FOR THEM TO LOOK AT.
THANK YOU.
SHIMANO-SAN'S RESPONSIBLE FOR IT?
YES, SO TELL ME ABOUT WHICH PRODUCTS YOU NEED
OKAY!
MY BRAINS, LOOKS, AND FAMILY BACK-GROUND ARE IMPECCABLE

I'M SO SORRY...
IT'S NOTHING.
Are you okay?
Hair ornament rustling
whump
THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN POPULAR WITH GIRLS SINCE HIGH SCHOOL.
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK.
crack
THANK YOU, TOO
AH!
THIS IS HOW IT SHOULD BE
I'll have the stuff ready for you as soon as possible!
I'M COMPETENT AND GOOD LOOKING (AND THE FUTURE COMPANY PRESIDENT), SO I'M PRACTICALLY LIKE THE KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOUR AROUND HERE (ACCORDING TO THE LADIES)
OH, ISN'T THAT SHIMANO?
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ABOVE EVERYONE ELSE
Ah, Kunikazu san!

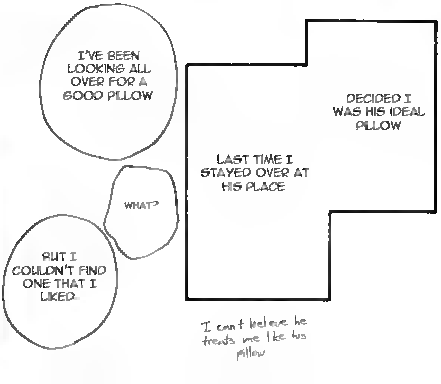
...OH, IT'S YOU, KUROKAWA -SAN.
I WAS CALLING YOU
thump
HEY!
!!
HEY, SHIMANO!
YEAH
Are you going to a meeting?
YOU'RE GOING OUT?
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D
FALL FOR THIS GUY
YEAH
Do you need to ask?

THIS ISN'T MY PROBLEM!
LEMME GET SOME REST

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
OH, THEN I NEED TO USE MY TIME WISELY.
I DIDN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP LAST NIGHT


I CAN'T SLEEP PROPERLY WITHOUT A PILLOW!
HOW COME YOU HAVEN'T BEEN STAYING OVER AT MY PLACE LATELY?
BECAUSE...I HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO...
UM, KUROKAWA-SAN...
THIS GUY

Can't you go buy a human shaped one or something?
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS
SO WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER?
Human shaped below-up doll
No I don't like these


I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR A GOOD PILLOW
WHAT?
BUT I COULDN'T FIND ONE THAT I LIKED.
LAST TIME I STAYED OVER AT HIS PLACE
DECIDED I WAS HIS IDEAL PILLOW
I can't believe he treats me like his pillow

WHO'S GONNA "SLEEP WITH YOU"?
KUROKAWA-SAN...
PLEASE DON'T ACT LIKE THIS AT WORK
DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO STOP DOING THAT!
HEY, PIPE DOWN. SOMEONE'S GONNA HEAR
KISSING A DOG...
KISSING YOU IS LIKE...
WHAT ARE YOU SO WORRIED ABOUT?
.....
chu
MUH

But he treats me like that I don't get him at all
Geez
What the hell is he thinking?
EVEN WORSE, HE'S STILL IN LOVE WITH HIS EX-WIFE!
He even has her picture at his condo
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU CALLING A DOG!?
First I'm a pillow now I'm a dog
THIS IS SO AGGRAVATING!
FIRST HE TREATS ME LIKE A PILLOW,
AND NOW I'M A DOG.
IF I GOT THIS...
IF I GAVE IT TO HIM WOULD HE REALLY SLEEP HUGGING IT?
knew ya
psh
So Funny
.....
MOGO

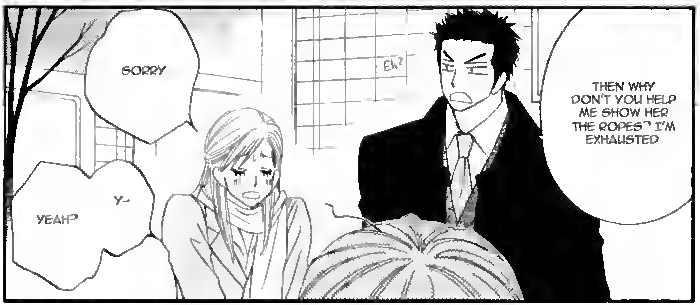
SHOULD I KEEP BEING HIS PILLOW?
BUT I DON'T WANT TO TELL HIM I DON'T ACTUALLY MIND IT WHEN HE HUGS ME.

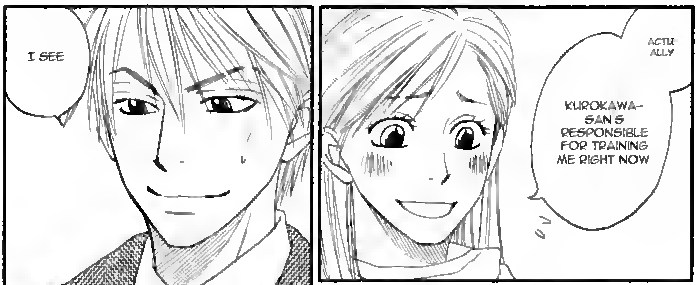
When he says stuff like that
Is there some other meaning behind it?

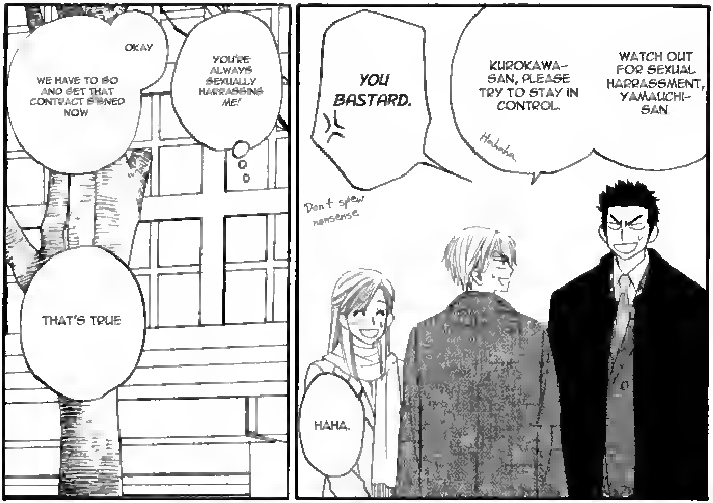
OH-

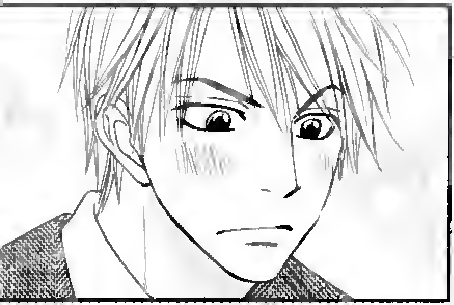
Hey
SHIMANO
WHY ARE YOU SITTING HERE?
I'M HERE FOR WORK
GOOD WORK, YAMAUCHI-SAN
HEY
AH! THAT'S CUTE OF ME
YOU TOO, SHIMANO-SAN
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KUROKAWA SAN?
.....

THIS GUY IS A SALESMAN.
IT SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISING THAT HE'S WALKING OUT ON THE STREET WITH A GIRL.
I'VE DONE ALL MY WORK.
YOU STILL HAVE THE TIME TO SIT AROUND HERE AND TAKE BREAKS?
YOU SURE HAVE A LOT OF FREE TIME.
I STILL HAVE TO MAKE A TRIP TO MK
OH YEAH? YOU GO OVER ALONE A LOT.
...TH ...T'S STR ...NGE ... WHY AM I SO ... NERVOUS?


SORRY
Y-
YEAH?
EH?
THEN WHY DON'T YOU HELP ME SHOW HER THE ROPES? I'M EXHAUSTED


I SEE
ACTU ALLY
KUROKAWA-SAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAINING ME RIGHT NOW


OKAY
WE HAVE TO GO AND GET THAT CONTRACT SIGNED NOW
YOU'RE ALWAYS SEXUALLY HARRASSING ME!
THAT'S TRUE
YOU BASTARD.
KUROKAWA-SAN, PLEASE TRY TO STAY IN CONTROL.
WATCH OUT FOR SEXUAL HARRASSMENT, YAMAUCHI-SAN
Hahaha
Don't spew nonsense
HAHA.

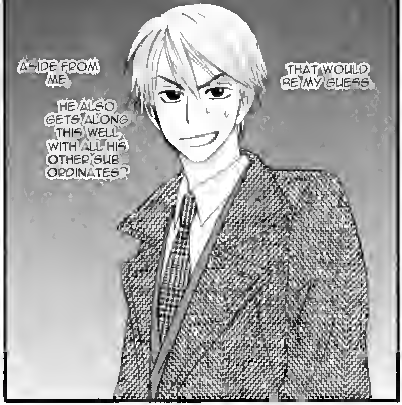


YES?
UM...
AH.

SEE YOU.
SOME THINGS YOU SHOULDN'T SAY OUT LOUD.

AH, I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
YOU'RE SO GOOD AT EVERYTHING, SHIMANO-SAN!
I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST AS WELL.
YAMA-UCHI
AH, YEAH.
Do your best
Hurry up!
I BET PEOPLE WOULD BE GLAD TO WORK WITH HER.
YAMAUCHI-SAN'S SO CUTE
...LOOKS LIKE HE'S IN A GOOD MOOD.

Amazing...that happy, huh?
.....
NEVER MIND THAT!
what
ISN'T HE HAPPY WHEN HE'S WITH ME, TOO?
OKAY TIME TO GET TO WORK
EH? WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER ...?
turns around



HE HAS AROUND TEN SUBORDINATES, RIGHT?

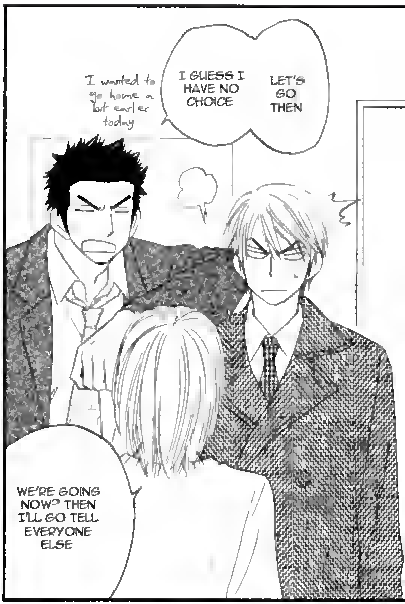
COULD IT BE THAT ..

WHY AM I THINKING SO MUCH?

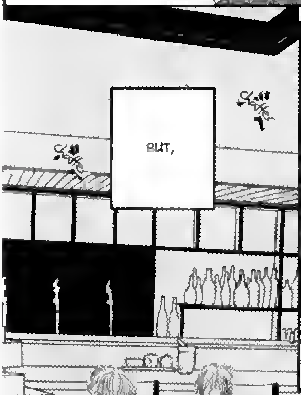
No Maybe For sure

SHIMANO-SAN, ARE YOU COMING?
AH SURE
I'm so tired
REALLY!? GREAT!
KUROKAWA-SAAAN!
Kuro
YEAH, THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK.
WE'RE HEADING OUT TO A COMPANY DINNER IN A BIT.
LEANING IN SO CLOSE. !
WHAT, I'M NOT WELCOME?
KUROKAWA-SAN SAID HE WOULDN'T GO UNLESS SHIMANO-SAN GOES TOO.
WHA?
WHAT?
SHIMANO-SAN'S COMING TOO

DON'T JUST TOUCH ME WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT
...


I wanted to go home a bit earlier today
I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE
LET'S GO THEN
WE'RE GOING NOW? THEN I'LL GO TELL EVERYONE ELSE

HM?


BUT,

HUH?
shuffle shuffle
NEVERMIND
NO. PEOPLE WILL BECOME SUSPICIOUS.
I have to be more careful

SHIMANO-KUN, DO YOU WANT FISH?
WHY DO WE HAVE TO SIT TOGETHER ANYWAY?
..SURE.
WE DIDN'T EVEN SIT TOGETHER IN THE END.
Shimano kun have some more to drink.
Cheers!
I THINK THAT
NOT ONLY IS HE SERIOUS ABOUT WORK, HE'S ALSO REALLY GOOD AT GETTING ALONG WITH EVERYONE.
KUROKAWA-SAN, THANKS A LOT ABOUT LAST TIME
AND IT SEEMS LIKE HE TAKES GOOD CARE OF HIS SUBORDINATES, TOO.

HE GETS ALONG WITH EVERYONE
EVERYONE'S NICE TO HIM AND TREATS HIM WELL.
I DIDN'T KNOW THIS, AND I DIDN'T NOTICE IT BEFORE, EITHER. SO HONESTLY, I'M (KIND OF PISSED AT KUROKAWA).
OH YEAH, UP UNTIL A LITTLE WHILE AGO, I H TED HIM, D DN'T I?
SFX: SULK
Are you okay?
WHY AM I GETTING MORE PISSED THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT?
HE'S A HUGE PERVERT TO START WITH, AND HIS CONDO'S A MESS, AND HE'S A BARBARIC APE.
FORGET IT, DON'T THINK SO MUCH! I'LL JUST IGNORE HIM!
Shimura-kun, aren't you drinking too much?
The soup's here!
SFX: ANGER
ISN'T HE SCARY? HE LOOKS FEROCIOUS.
YEAH.
SHE'S BEEN WITH KUROKAWA ALL THE TIME LATELY.
INNER BEAUTY, MAYBE?
NO WAY.
WHAT'S WITH YAMAUCHI-SAN LATELY?
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT HIM?
ba-dump

KUROKAWA-SAN LOOKS STRICT
BUT HE'S VERY NICE TO ME
EH, REALLY?
HE'S KIND TO ALL GIRLS, ISN'T HE?
YEAH! HE'S NICE TO ME, TOO
YOU GUYS ARE MAKING THIS SOUND SO GROSS
I can't take it anymore
WHAT! IT'S TRUE!
Hahaha
HAVE YOU GIRLS GONE BLIND OR SOMETHING? WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT A MAN WHO DOESN'T DO ANYTHING BUT EAT AND SLEEP?
IT'S NOT YOUR PROBLEM EVERYONE HAS DIFFERENT TASTES
HEY, AREN'T YOU GUYS GONNA ORDER MORE FOOD?
SHIMANO-KUN?

I'LL GO ORDER MORE FOOD
EH?
SHIMANO-KUN?
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU CAN'T EVEN WALK STRAIGHT...
WHAT IS IT?
I KNOW.
?
HE'S NICE. HE LOOKS AFTER PEOPLE

HE'S COMPETENT AND A GOOD WORKER AND HE LOVES DRINKING
BUT I BET THEY DON'T KNOW...
THAT HE ALWAYS SITS ALONE AT HOME... AND HE HAS TROUBLE SLEEPING ALL THE TIME
I THINK...
NONE OF THEM KNOW
WHAT?
SFX: BANG
バターン
WHOA! SHIMANO!?

I'M THE ONLY ONE
He was drinking all that on his own!
Shimano-kun is out cold!
Geez who made him drink this much?
Ack!
Young master!
Eek!
Ack!
WHO'S MADE DINNER FOR HIM BEFORE

pat
OH. YOU'RE AWAKE.
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
YOU PASSED OUT DRUNK, HOW COULD I JUST LEAVE YOU?

kiss

IF YOU CAN'T TAKE IT, DON'T DRINK SO MUCH.
YOU GOT EVERYONE WORRIED
pout

HOW COME YOU DIDN'T GET ANGRY THIS TIME?
.....

.....
EH?

WANT SOME WATER?
Feeling better yet?
Ugh
KUROKAWA-SAN...

HUH?
Like what?
KISSING
HERE
Have some water
ARE YOU LIKE THAT TO EVERYONE ELSE, TOO?
YOU MEAN KISSING OTHER PEOPLE?
LIKE WITH YAMAUCHI-SAN
OF COUSE NOT
THEN WHAT ABOUT WITH HIRAI OR IKEBE?
NO!

BUT DON'T YOU KISS ME?
AM I DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE?
SHIMANO?
AM I SPECIAL TO HIM?
I WANT
TO BE CLOSER TO HIM THAN ANYONE ELSE.
HEY

I THINK I'M DRUNK.
WHY DON'T YOU SPEND SOME TIME WITH ME?
EH?
push
WHAT?
C'MON.
HEY..
SHIMANO!

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? ARE YOU STILL DRUNK?
I DON'T CARE WHETHER I CAN HAVE HIM OR NOT.
I JUST WANT HIM.
I'VE NEVER WANTED ANYONE THIS BADLY BEFORE
BUT,
I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE.

HUH?
...I'M GOING HOME
Sudary
WAIT..
HEY SHIMANO, WAIT!
MY SALES RECORD IS FLAWLESS
I'M GOOD-LOOKING
RICH, AND MY FAMILY'S WELL-OFF
BUT NONE OF IT MEANS ANYTHING.

I'M...
NOT A DOG OR A PILLOW
KUROKAWA SAN
.....
I KNOW THAT
.....
I KNOW THAT
WHEN YOU TREAT ME LIKE THIS... IT'S HARD ON ME.

HIS HANDS,
HIS VOICE
I WANT IT ALL SO BADLY
BUT YOUR HEART IS BEATING SO LOUDLY.
HE MEANS SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM
ANYTHING THAT I'VE EVER OBTAINED.

IT'S LIKE I'VE STOPPED THINKING.
JUST MOVING
ACCORDING TO MY
INSTINCTS

HEY
UGH!

……
ガン

Why am I here?
HUH? EH..
DO YOU WANT WATER?
OH YEAH, WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY IT WAS A DREAM, RIGHT?
I'M TELLING YOU NOW, OKAY?
DOES YOUR HEAD HURT?
THROB
THROB
THROB
HANG-
OVER
You did this to me.
The scratch marks
Look
THAT WASN'T A DREAM.
DIZZY
I think there was bleeding
HEY

Sip
Sip
IT'S JUST THAT
EH? MY DAD?
YEAH, THAT'S HOW IT WAS
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS HOPING FOR SOMETHING IN RETURN FROM YOU...
I knew it that's why you were nice to me...
Glare
Something like that
HEY, HEY! WAIT A SEC!
YOUR DAD WANTED ME TO LOOK AFTER YOU.
WHAT?
Ba-dump
Ba-dump

WHAT?
IT'S
...THAT
FORGET ABOUT THAT FOR NOW!
I NEED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT!
MORE IMPORTANT?
THE PERSON ON THAT PHOTO
HM?
AH... EH HER?
I WANTED TO GIVE IT BACK TO HER THE NEXT TIME WE MEET.
MEET?
My ex-wife
You're asking about her?

I'M NOT EVEN JOKING
SHE'S REALLY THAT SCARY?
Are ?
Even if I don't die I'd be carnivorse.
I WANTED TO THROW IT AWAY A LOT OF TIMES, BUT IF SHE FOUND OUT SHE'D AXE ME
NAH, WE DON'T SEE EACH OTHER ANYMORE
OH.
...NOTHING.
WH...T'S THE PROBLEM?
I ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT IT.
YOU ARE!
NO!
NO WAY!
AH... YOU'RE JEALOUS?

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE FOR ME NOW
squeeze
DON'T WORRY
I KNEW IT HE THINKS I'M A PILLOW
AREN'T MY HUGS GREAT?
squeeze
LET GO OF ME.
End

DOUSHIYOUMO NAI KAREDO
CHAPTER 2

Arest: Cleaner
Michi: Editor
Nyang: Translator
Typesetter
Nuuz: Typesetter
Schumacher: Proofer
Aerk: QC

たりないものはひとつだけ

THE ONE THING
I CAN'T STAND

CHATTER
CHATTER
Conference Room
CHATTER
BANG
IT WAS ALL HIS FAULT I HAD TO HURRY, AND HE DIDN'T EVEN WAIT FOR ME!
THAT HEARTLESS BASTARD...
All right, I'm leaving then.
So Fast!
THIS GUY ONLY NEEDS TEN MINUTES TO FINISH BREAKFAST
huh
huh
huh
THANK GOD
I MADE IT
NOT BAD. YOU MADE IT.
GOOD MORNING.
AH, GOOD MORNING, SHIMANO-SAN.
smile
SURPRISE

(DUE TO CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES)
BEGAN AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP AROUND A MONTH AGO
IS THAT RIGHT?
I'M ALWAYS THIS PERFECT.
ANNOYED
ANNOYED
ME AND THIS GUY HERE.
GOOD MORNING, KUROKAWA-SAN.
I BET YOU HAD TO RUN IT LIKE THE HUNDRED-YARD DASH.
CAREFUL, YOU DON'T GET MOLESTED OR SOMETHING
You need to watch out more.
!
!!
YOU!
AH
YOU'RE SWEATING
SHIVER
RUB

SHIMANO!
SIT OVER HERE
I GET PISSED OFF EVERY TIME I THINK ABOUT HIM
Oh Takei-san! Yamauchi-san, over here.
SINCE HE LIKES ME SO MUCH
BUT I GUESS I CAN FORGIVE HIM,
CLATTER CLATTER
GEEZ
You like me that much?
SO,
Just arranging seats
Dead is so mysterious
SIGH
So tell me what you think
ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?
UM
I'D LIKE TO HEAR EVERYONE'S OPINION ON THIS
I THINK THAT WE'LL NEED TO CHANGE SOME OF OUR POLICIES IF WE'RE GOING TO DIVERSIFY

I'll leave it to you Kurokawa.
OKAY
EVERYONE ELSE TRY AND TOUCH BASE WITH YOUR OWN CLIENTS
OKAY LET KUROKAWA HANDLE THE BIG CLIENTS
What?
WE'VE ALREADY CONTACTED OVER HOW OF THEM
WE SHOULD PROBABLY GO GREET OUR OLD CLIENTS RIGHT?
No way
KUROKAWA -SAN
I need to rearrange it
Give me the data
CLATTER
CLATTER
SOMEONE FROM THE BRANCH COMPANY WILL COME OVER TO HELP US OUT
JUST HELP ME OUT FOR NOW
Eh, I don't want
What a hassle
Can we check off?
WHY DON'T YOU HELP OUT?
YEAH, THERE ARE OVER A HUNDRED COMPANIES
KUROKAWA-SAN, YOU'RE GOING TO FIX ALL THE CLIENT LISTS?
There are a lot
YOU SURE?
OF COURSE.
YOU CAN HANDLE SOMETHING THIS SIMPLE RIGHT?
IT'S JUST REORGANIZING THE DATABASE

THEY'LL BE OVER HERE IN THE EVENING
...THAT S... STRANGE
THERE ARE PEOPLE FROM THE BRANCH COMPANY I DON'T KNOW?
NOTHING
WHAT?
You seem happy
THIS IS SHIMANO
Professional smile
I KNEW THEY WOULDN'T KNOW ME.
NICE TO MEET YOU
HI I'M SHIMANO
KUROKAWA-SAN IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME
Do you still remember me?
HEY
HI IT'S BEEN A WHILE
OH OF COURSE YAMAMORI
AH, THIS IS...

THAT'S WEIRD.
HELLO, I'M KURADA.
HI, I'M YAMAMORI!
SO PLEASED TO MEET YOU, SHIMANO-SAN.
The president's son is pretty famous
I don't know this man
I THINK I'VE MET HER BEFORE...
Where have I seen her?
AH.
NO, NO, I...
I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU.
I HEARD YOU'RE VERY CAPABLE.
SMILE

KU-
KUROKAWA-SAN, COME OVER HERE FOR A SEC!
WHAT?
IT'S HER?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I WANTED TO ASK YOU!
ISN'T THAT WOMAN...
!!!
I KNEW IT!
You figured it out?
MY EX-WIFE
That's right

THIS WOMAN IS THE ONE IN THE PHOTO!
I should've known I've noticed
HAHAHA
YOU TWO ARE SO CLOSE
SORRY I WANTED TO ASK SOME THING
ALL THAT'S LEFT OF OUR RELATIONSHIP IS PURELY PROFESSIONAL
I AM PLEASED TO MEET YOU
AND I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR GUIDANCE SHIMANO-KUN
HE DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING UN-NECESSARY DID HE?
THUD
SORRY HE REALLY LIKES RUNNING OFF AT THE MOUTH
WE DON'T HAVE ANY THING TO DO WITH EACH OTHER ANY MORE.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT

AH
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ANY-THING BEFORE-HAND!?
SHIMANO
Manager
Kurada Saeko
Shimano Corp
WHAT'S SO BOTHER-SOME ABOUT EXPLAINING SOMETHING LIKE THIS!?
BECAUSE IT WAS TOO MUCH OF A HASSLE
It's a long story

THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP IS PURELY PROFESSIONAL NOW?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT SO MUCH.
WELL WE'RE DIVORCED ANYWAY
AND DIDN'T SAEKO SAY

I GET IT NOW THE MEETING MUST HAVE TRIGGERED SWEET MEMORIES OF THE PAST. I COULD TELL FROM THE WAY YOU GREETED EACH OTHER!
DON'T ARGUE!
HEY, IT DID NOT
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE STILL CLOSE!
BUT
WHY DON'T YOU STOP DREAMING UP THIS STUFF ON YOUR OWN?
Like there's any?
AT THE VERY LEAST YOU LIKED HER RIGHT?
SHE'S STILL YOUR EX-WIFE ISN'T SHE?
NO MATTER WHAT
LET'S HURRY UP AND FINISH THE WORK SO WE CAN GO HOME EARLY
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT. THE DEPARTMENT HEAD KEEPS RUSHING US.
There's still a lot to do
PLEASE STOP THINKING ABOUT IT, OKAY?
I CAN'T HELP COMPARING MYSELF TO HER!

I WASN'T MAD
YOU ARE TOO MAD
LET'S JUST SAY IT WAS MY FAULT THIS TIME
DON'T BE MAD OKAY?
Hey
TURN AROUND
BYE
HUH!?
YOU'RE LEAVING!?
Kiss
Well that's true.
Running to work in the morning is tiring!
BANG

JUST THINKING ABOUT IT MAKES ME ANGRY

THANK
HERE'S THE LIST FOR THE OTHER COMPANIES
I GOT IT WHEN I STOPPED BY FOR A VISIT
SHIMANO
IT'S JUST THE LIST.
SAEKO SAN'S REALLY SOMETHING
OH HEY
SHE'S SO RELIABLE
AH, BUT SOME OF THIS IS KIND OF UNCLEAR
THIS SHE DID IT IN ONE NIGHT?
THANK GOOO-NESS
Doesn't she sleep?

I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU
smile
I CAN'T COMPARE AT ALL.
HEY YOU TWO.
COME AND HELP US ORGANIZE THIS FIRST.
Help us out with it
?
OKAY
USE THE Q-A FORMAT LIKE BEFORE?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT
?

THIS IS FASTER I GUESS
OKAY

EH?
LET'S GET TO WORK THEN SHIMANO-KUN.
I GET IT
AH

WHAT?
BECAUSE KUROKAWA-SAN AND SAEKO-SAN ARE IN ONE GROUP
OH..
OKAY

WAH?

Let's hurry up and get this done.
Saeko-san can you look at this?

THAT'S TRUE

I KNOW THAT!
KEEP YOUR PRIVATE LIFE AND YOUR WORK SEPARATE.
THUD
AKI,
COME OVER HERE FOR A SECOND
OKAY
Still in bed
SHIMANO-KUN ARE YOU DONE?
Hm hm
Kunihiro
"AKI" FROM "AKIHIRO"?
ALMOST
"AKI"?
社名
TEL/
㈱ゴールデンコーポレーション
045-3
住川不動産株式会社
03-6
グリア建設株式会社
03-
ヘルスインターメリッド
04
レオパレス11
03
㈱エンジニアリンガー

YEAH.
YOU WORK WITH KUROKAWA-SAN A LOT, RIGHT?
OH, RIGHT. SHIMANO-KUN,
I'm almost done, too
TAKTAKTAK
KUROKAWA-SAN'S FAMOUS AT OUR BRANCH FOR HIS EFFICIENCY.
Light-speed typing.
Sniff...Sano's typing is so fast!
I'LL HELP OUT.
OKAY. LET'S TAKE A TEN-MINUTE BREAK.
TAKTAKTAK
TAKTAKTAKTAKTAKTAKTAKTAK
YEAH...
WE SHOULD ASK HER TO DO OUR TYPING FOR US.
Must be nice...
NO. BEFORE THAT...
THEY WERE MARRIED.
AH... WHAT'S SO UNUSUAL ABOUT THAT?
FOR A WHILE, SAEKO-SAN WAS CALLED THE "BRANCH COMPANY'S KUROKAWA".
THEY WERE ALWAYS ESPECIALLY EFFICIENT
They could finish a lot more of the usual amount of work.
BUT WHEN THEY WORKED TOGETHER
A REAL MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN
THEY ALWAYS WORKED TOGETHER.
AND THEN THERE WAS JUST KUROKAWA-SAN LEFT.
They used to be the perfect team.
IS THAT RIGHT?
HE TALKS NON-STOP...
Hamano
Sano
Kuro

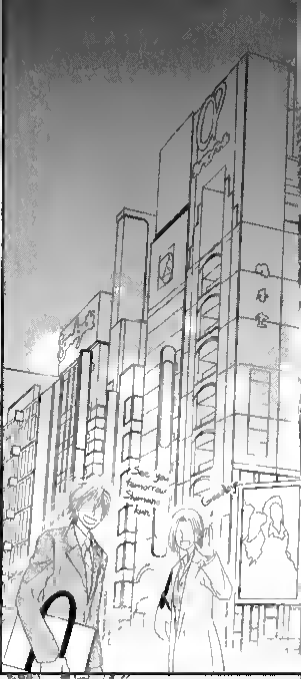
THIS BAS-TARD...
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYONE ELSE MORE SUITED TO EITHER OF THEM.
THEY REALLY SUIT EACH OTHER!
Hahaha.
REALLY?
SO NOW IT'S LIKE IT'S BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE
OH... Is that so?
FLAP
HE HAS A PARTNER NOW TOO
OH REALLY?
That doesn't count
THOSE ARE JUST SUBOR-DINATES
JUST SUBORDINATES
BUT YOU'RE QUITE EFFI-CIENT TOO, YAMAMORI-SAN.
YOU CAN EVEN GOSSIP AND WORK AT THE SAME TIME.
I WISH I COULD TAPE HIS MOUTH SHUT SO I DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO HIM.
YEAH?
OF COURSE, not.
TWITCH TWITCH

Oh yeah, Shimizu-kun how old were you?
Okay, let's keep working.
You're almost the same as me. I'm 27 we should get along well
OK (THIS YEAR)
HE'S SO ANNOYING BLAH BLAH BLAH NON STOP
NEXT PAGE!
WHAT ARE YOU DAY-DREAMING ABOUT?
WHAT?
HEY!
OH...
I WAS STARING?
YOU'VE BEEN STARING AT HIM SINCE A WHILE AGO
QUIT PRE-TENDING.
IT'S NOTHING...
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HIM?
YES, YOU WERE
Could you please pay attention?

Actually really does mind
HAS HE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT?
I'M NOT DISTRACTED THEY'RE THE ONES WHO AREN'T CONCENTRATING
AH YAMAMOTO? YOU DON'T LIKE HIM RIGHT? HE KEEPS RESTERING SHIMANO-KUN
WHAT?
THEY SEEM TO BE HAVING FUN
CHATTER
HEH YOU'RE WORKING?
I KNOW HE REALLY MATTERS TO YOU
SO YOU BETTER WATCH OUT OR HE'LL GET STOLEN BY SOMEONE ELSE
YOU
JUST KIDDING.
WHAT!?
HE MOVES REALLY FAST

WHY
AH
HE LEFT SOMETHING ON HIS DESK
DID HE?
WHERE IS KUROKAWA?
AM I SO FRUSTRATED?
FEEL REALLY GLAD THAT I GOT TO MEET YOU
SHIMANO-KUN
YES?
I

KI
HEY~
Sorry to be late
ME, TOO..
REALLY?
REALLY..
OH, RIGHT
AKI THIS IS YOUR FAVOURITE
EH?
IT'S A GIFT
Take it
AH, IT'S SAKE.
WHOA
You got this cake... really for me?
THANKS



WATCH OUT FOR HIM
YAMAMORI, I MEAN
WHAT?
WATCH OUT FOR HIM

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHY WOULD A MAN BE INTERESTED IN ANOTHER MAN?
That must be it
BE INTERESTED IN YOU
I'M NOT JOKING!

HE SEEMS TO
BECAUSE.
WHY?

I'M JUST TELLING THE TRUTH
Hmph
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN? YOU MEAN YOU REALLY HATE ME?
I WOULDN'T TOUCH GUYS!
LIKE HOW I USED TO LOVE WOMEN
I DON'T GET WHAT YOU MEAN
What are you talking about?
YOU'RE DIFFERENT.
BUT I CHANGED MY MIND.
?
I MEAN

ARGH ARE YOU PRETENDING!?
YOU GET WHAT I MEAN DON'T YOU!?
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG
WHY
DID WE NEED TO COME TO MY PLACE?
BECAUSE I'M AFRAID YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET UP AFTER
WHAT IF YOU COULDN'T MAKE IT HOME?

Hah
GET ON
MMPH
Hah
THIS ROOM.

IS SO BIG
IT FEELS SO EMPTY.
Do you really like him?
THIS GUY...
IS ONLY IN IT FOR MY BODY CAS A PILLOW.
MUMBLE
MUMBLE

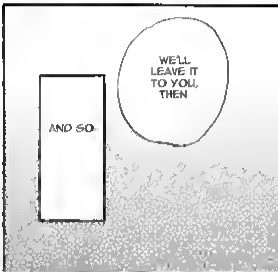
EVEN IF HE SAYS
THAT HE LOVES ME
OUR RELATIONSHIP HASN'T CHANGED
SMACK
!?
snore
HM...?
mumble

WATCHING THEM AS THEY REFERRED TO EACH OTHER BY NAME
AND SMILED AT EACH OTHER.
I UNDERSTOOD SOMETHING
THEY SHARE A PAST THAT I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT
EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE NOT TOGETHER ANYMORE.

THERE ISN'T ANYTHING THAT TIES ME AND HIM TO EACH OTHER

IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN HELP WORRYING ABOUT THIS
WHAT A HASSLE.
WHAT?
DEALING WITH THOSE BIG COMPANIES IS A HASSLE IT TAKES THEM AGES JUST TO CONNECT A CALL.
AH, GEEZ. FORGET IT I'M HANGING UP

JUST KEEP DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING NOW
I HAVE TO GO MEET WITH THE CLIENT FROM LAST TIME
WE'RE ALMOST LATE
OKAY


WE'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, THEN
AND SO...

THE TWO OF THEM

LEFT ON A BUSINESS TRIP TO-- GETHER

HOW DID IT BECOME LIKE THIS...?
alone
AND THEY HAVEN'T BEEN BACK IN 3 DAYS
DEPRESSED
GOOD MORNING, SHIMANO-KUN! YOU'RE SO EARLY!
A LAB OH!
What's wrong?
CLICK
I'll probably happen
But this is what
EVEN THOUGH THEY DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING...
wrong
wrong
TIK TIK TIK
YAMAMORI GETS PHONE CALLS FROM SAEKO SAN EVERY DAY
IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT EFFICIENCY SAEKO-SAN IS DEFINITELY BETTER THAN HE IS
OH IS THAT RIGHT?
I GUESS KUROKAWA-SAN ISN'T COMING BACK TODAY EITHER

YEAH
AND THERE'S ALWAYS WORK TO BE DONE
YOU HAVE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY IF YOUR SUBORDINATES MESS UP
IT'S TOUGH BEING A MANAGER
I GUESS THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT
BUT-
OH, YEAH.
I'M ALREADY REALLY NERVOUS, AND HE GOES AND SAYS SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
YEAH.
MAKES YOU WONDER DOESN'T IT?
I BET THEY'RE STAYING IN THE SAME ROOM RIGHT NOW
WHY DOES HE ALWAYS BRING UP STUFF I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
I'M REALLY WORRIED
YES
THAT'S RIGHT
BUT I STILL WONDER
I KNOW THEY'RE REALLY BUSY.

SAEKO-SAN!
?
I'M SO TIRED
IS THE CONTRACT SETTLED?
NOT YET THOSE OLD GUYS ARE SO HARD TO HANDLE
THE DATA I GAVE YOU GUYS LAST TIME IS IT DONE?
YUP HE'S WORKING HARD
IS KUROKAWA-SAN HELPING?
SHOUN
He's still asleep
NO IT'S OKAY NO RUSH
I still have to go out for a bit
OH SORRY
AH
IS THAT RIGHT?
HE WANTS TO SEE ME!?
HE SAYS HE WANTS TO SEE YOU. SHIMANO-KUN WHY DON'T YOU GO VISIT HIM TONIGHT?
Hmhm

HOW FAR ALONG ARE YOU GUYS?
WE'RE ABOUT 70 PERCENT DONE
AH GOOD JOB
OH RIGHT SAEKO-SAN
ACTUALLY,
OH.
HE'S KIND OF TIED UP TONIGHT
JUST WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL?
SO DID YOU AND KUROKAWA-SAN
NO
DON'T GO THERE.
We're not like that anymore.
YEAH..?
AH, BUT I THINK YOU GUYS WORK SO WELL TOGETHER
AND YOU MAKE SUCH A GOOD COUPLE TOO
YEAH?

I'M STILL NOT MATURE ENOUGH, AFTER ALL
IT WOULDN'T REALLY BE SURPRISING EVEN IF ANYTHING DID HAPPEN
BUT WE DO SPEND A LOT OF TIME ALONE TOGETHER WHEN WE'RE OUT ON BUSINESS
BUT I'M OVER THIS RELATIONSHIP NOW
BADUMP
BADUMP
BADUMP
BUT
Really?
ONCE SAID THAT WITHOUT YOU BY HIS SIDE
HE FEELS LONELY...
KUROKAWA -SAN, HE...

REALLY ?
WE WERE ALWAYS SO COMPETITIVE WITH EACH OTHER
MAYBE BACK THEN IF WE BOTH AGREED TO COMPROMISE A LITTLE WE WOULDN'T HAVE SPLIT UP
NO WAY!
IT'S TRUE
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT! WHY AM I DIGGING MY OWN GRAVE?
EVEN THOUGH I WAS VERY HAPPY WHEN I WAS WITH HIM WE NEVER GAVE IN WITH EACH OTHER
I THINK IT'S TOO LATE NOW
I GUESS...
SHE REALLY IS OVER HIM.
I HAVE TO GO BACK NOW
OH ALREADY?
I HAVE A MEETING IN THE EVENING!

...I'M THE ONLY ONE?
I feel lonely
I GUESS SAEKO-SAN DOESN'T FEEL THAT WAY.
I DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO SEE HER AGAIN BEFORE THIS
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS SO COMPETITIVE.
IS SHE REALLY OVER THAT RELATION-SHIP?
HURRY...
NO, BTC! THINKING ALREADY!
CLANK
AAA RGH!
HOTEL IN
BACK TO MY SIDE.
SHIMANO-KUN SEEMS TO MISS YOU.
REALLY?
HE'S TRYING VERY HARD. HE'S VERY EFFICIENT, NOT AT ALL LIKE THE RUMORS.
REALLY?
YOU CAN TELL.
REALLY?
HEY WHAT'S UP?

WHY IS IT SO HARD?
YOU'RE WONDERING THAT HE'LL SAY SOMETHING?
WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK AND SEE HIM YOURSELF?
Then you can relax
NO.
BECAUSE...
WELL, NOT NOW.
FALL ASLEEP
There must be a lot of different stories.
There shouldn't be this many stories.
ACTING ALL TOUGH.
BECAUSE... IF I SAW HIM NOW
I'LL DEFINITELY

HEY, HURRY UP! IT'S DUE TOMORROW!
AARGH, I WANT MY PILLOW!
I KNOW! STOP YELLING AT ME, I'M REALLY SLEEPY!
Dammit, I can't take it anymore!
ONE DAY FEELS SO LONG
WHY IS IT SO HARD?
ARE YOU OKAY? TIRED?
AH I'M FINE
Phew
YUP
WE'RE JUST ABOUT DONE

OKAY NOW THESE
THEY WERE FAXED OVER THIS MORNING
IS HE OKAY?
THERE'S SOMEONE EVEN MORE TIRED THAN I AM
03 5214 8BXX
I'll leave it to you!
Asahara
THAT I'M USELESS.
I CAN TELL, EVEN IF HE DOESN'T SAY SO.
I BET HE THINKS I'M PATHETIC
WHY DO I MISS HIM SO MUCH?
HE HASN'T EVEN CALLED HEARTLESS BASTARD
I'M TAKING OFF!

I DIDN'T THINK MY POSITION
I HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE COMPANY.
YOU SHOULD GO HOME TOO.
NO, IT'S OKAY.
AH? AREN'T WE GOING TO GO HAVE DINNER TOGETHER?
YOU DON'T LOOK FINE
WHAT? I'M FINE
Kuchi
ARE YOU REALLY OKAY?
WOULD BECOME SO PRECARIOUS.
You don't feel well? Do you want to go see a doctor?
PAT

I...
I'M FINE...
YOU...
HEY, ARE YOU OKAY!?
Ack
I WANT TO SEE HIM RIGHT NOW
I REALLY WANT TO SEE HIM
CLACK

KURO-
BANG
DRAG

CLACK
BANG
HEY KUROKAWA-SAN?
BANG
I'LL KILL YOU.
IF YOU TOUCH HIM AGAIN,
HEY !
STOP IT!
LET GO!

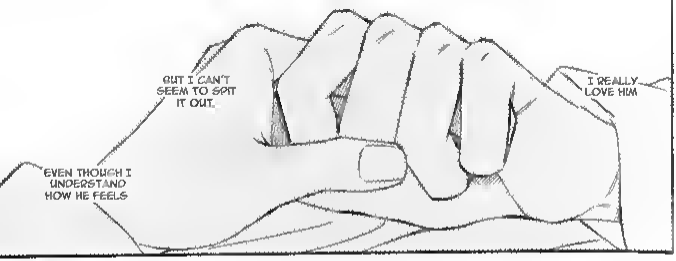
ouch
YOU'RE DONE WITH YOUR WORK?
DID HE?
HURU
click
WHAT?
DID HE DO ANYTHING TO YOU?
hug
WHAT? NO
SO WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

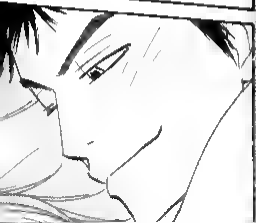
I'D SHOW HIM IF HE DID ANYTHING.
WHY'S HIS BODY SO WARM?
IT'S SO...
BECAUSE I...DIDN'T FEEL WELL!
EYES!
NERVOUS
SO -
BUT
SO WHY!?
HE DIDN'T DO ANY-THING TO ME!
IT'S NOTH-ING..!
I'M OKAY NOW
SHE'S..
BACK TO THE BRANCH COMPANY
WHAT?
BUT THE WORK'S NOT DONE
YOU KNOW?
OF COURSE

...
...
HAVE YOU CALMED DOWN?
OKAY
WAS THERE REALLY NO EMOTION INVOLVED WHEN YOU WERE WORKING TOGETHER?
shake
shake
shake
shake
What if someone sees us?
LET GO
shake
HEY,
WHAT THE...
THUMP

SO HOT!!
BEEP BEEP BEEP
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S GOT SUCH A HIGH FEVER
The one I was waiting to see, too
NN...
38.0℃
SLEEP...
YOU PASSED OUT.
YOU HAVE A COLD. You're right to get the flu.
YOU'RE AWAKE?
EH...?
OH... I FELL ASLEEP...?

YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM WEAKENS IF YOU OVER-WORK.
HM. I'M FINE
I JUST HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH SLEEP. THAT'S ALL. FOUR DAYS WITHOUT SLEEPING ..?
YOU HAVE A REALLY HIGH FEVER!
IT IS SERIOUS!
A COLD?
IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN DIE FROM THAT
I SAW YOU
AND RELAXED ALL OF A SUDDEN
YOU IDIOT
FOUR DAYS!?
ARE YOU CRAZY?
I'VE DONE IT BEFORE AND I WAS OKAY
OH. BUT I THINK THIS TIME I PROBABLY FAINTED BECAUSE





I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FACE MY FEELINGS

THEN I GUESS I DON'T NEED TO WORRY.
HEY!
I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO BE YOUR PILLOW!
SO...
LICK
HUH?
STOP THAT AND CALM DOWN!
HUFF
HUFF
IT'S NOT MY FAULT YOU'RE NOT CALM EITHER
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO STOP?
WHAT?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO SLEEP WITH YOU POKING INTO ME LIKE THAT?

GRAB
BANG
LET GO!
JUST RELAX C MON
SHUT UP, YOU PERVERT!
Cough
SEE
I THINK MY BODY TEMPERATURE JUST ROSE EVEN MORE
With you sitting on top of me.
LET GO!
SEE? THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DON'T COVER UP PROPERLY! WHAT IF YOUR COLD GETS WORSE?
EHP

HEY.

LET GO.
EH?

OF COURSE IT'D HURT, JUST STICKING IT IN LIKE THAT!
GEEZ, YOU!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO DO IT!

YOU..
UGH.

AH SEEZ I M SORRY DON'T CRY
RELAX YOUR BODY
..UGH.
ha
IT'S SO HOT...
OF COURSE .. YOU HAVE A FEVER ..
I M ABOUT TO PASS OUT
AH .. I'M SO SLEEPY..

IF YOU WANT TO SLEEP JUST SLEEP.
DON'T YOU HAVE LOADS OF WORK TO DO TOMORROW?
SHUT
Can't be sleep!
OKAY. YOU WAKE ME THEN MISTER NEXT-IN-LINE TO BE COMPANY PRESIDENT
!
AND SO...
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE.
HM...
HEY, GO TO SLEEP!
Shh
KUROKAWA SLEPT REALLY WELL THAT NIGHT AND HIS COLD
WAS GONE NEXT THE DAY
SO IT'S
THUMP
ALL DONE.
I WAS WORRIED FOR NOTHING

HEY, THAT GUY
OH, THANK YOU!
YOU WERE A GREAT HELP
GOOD WORK!
SHIMANO-KUN,
EH?
..AH..
YOU THREATENED HIM, DIDN'T YOU? I HEARD ABOUT IT.
WHY'S HE STILL HERE?
SHOUT!
Hahaha
I GUESS KUROKAWA REALLY LIKES YOU!
HE EVEN WENT ON A RAMPAGE BECAUSE OF YOU
AHAHAH AHAHAH
EH?
WAS WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY A SHOCK FOR YOU TOO?

AH...
HE'D BE LONELY OTHERWISE
"SO GLAD I GOT TO KNOW YOU."
I'M SO GLAD HE MET YOU.
I NEVER THOUGHT HE COULD BE THIS INTERESTED IN ANOTHER PERSON
SO I'LL LEAVE KUROKAWA TO YOU
OF COURSE NOT! STOP KIDDING AROUND. I WOULDN'T GO OUT WITH SOMEONE FROM MY COMPANY
I'll work harder than ever from now on, I swear!
I FEEL KIND OF BAD FOR HIM, ACTUALLY
WHAT? SAEKO-SAN'S GETTING MARRIED?
SO NOW I CAN STOP WORRYING AND GET MARRIED
THEN— YOU AREN'T... WITH YAMAMORI-SAN
BESIDES WORK AND ALCOHOL,
IS PROBABLY YOU.
THE ONLY THING HE WON'T GET TIRED OF, EVEN AFTER TEN YEARS...

EH?
HAVE WE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR TEN YEARS?
HEY, WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
AH... I'M SO TIRED.
.....
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I'VE ONLY BEEN WORKING TWO YEARS.
YOU FORGOT? YOUR MEMORY'S SO BAD
WE'VE ONLY KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR TWO YEARS, RIGHT!?
AH
OH !
IT'S THE PRESIDENT
HEY HAVE WE!?
IT WAS SAEKO WASN'T IT..!?

HE USED TO GET ME TO VISIT YOUR HOUSE ALL THE TIME
I USED TO SEE YOU ALL THE TIME
I TOTALLY
HE WAS A REGULAR AT THE PLACE I WORKED PART-TIME
HMPH - YOU'RE SO HEARTLESS
!!
DIDN'T REALIZE THIS
WHAT ?
HOW COME I DON'T REMEMBER?
When was this!?
WHAT ELSE IS THERE
THAT I DON'T KNOW?
It's true
I'm not lying
This isn't true
is it?
Really
End

Doushiyoumo Nai Karedo

chapter 3

Vices and Devices

http://www.vicesndevices.net

MICHI	scanner, QC
NYANG	translator, QC
ABBI	proofreader
SILVER	typesetter, editor

by Natsume Isaku

scanner
translator
typesetter/editor
QC

AFTER A DAY OF WORK, THE TIRED SALARY-MEN
LOOK FOR A PLACE TO RELAX THEIR BODIES AND MINDS
WHICH IS WHY THIS PLACE IS REALLY BUSY IN THE EVENING
KURO-KAWA!
OUTSIDE!
bang
COMING
CRASH
CRASH
THUD
だから今もこれからも
居酒
SIRS,
PLEASE DON'T BE SO RECKLESS
You might hurt someone.

SO THIS IS THE
BEGINNING

chatter
chatter
chatter
HEY, MANAGER, THE BEER'S ALL GONE
OKAY!
FOR A WHILE, I ONLY WENT TO CLASS ONE OR TWO DAYS A WEEK,
BECAUSE I WAS WORKING HERE EVERY DAY
I'M GRADUATING IN HALF A YEAR, BUT I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND A REAL JOB
HEY, KUROKAWA! YOU'RE HERE!
chatter
You're working so hard!
CLANG
I WAS THINKING MAYBE I COULD JUST START WORKING HERE FULL-TIME.
SHIMANO-SAN...
YOU'VE BEEN COMING EVERY DAY LATELY. IS IT REALLY OKAY?
Welcome
WHAT KIND OF TALK IS THAT?
I SPEND A LOT OF TIME WITH MY FAMILY, TOO.
OH YEAH, HOW'S YOUR DECISION COMING?

YOU'RE TOO GENEROUS WITH YOUR PRAISE.
It's not like that!
THERE HE GOES AGAIN!
AND YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO HANDLE CUSTOMERS!
YOU'RE PHYSICALLY TOUGH, AND GOOD AT BEING SOCIAL.
YOU'D DEFINITELY BE A GOOD SALESPERSON.
WELL, I'M WAITING FOR YOU TO CHANGE YOUR MIND!
OH!
DIDN'T I ALREADY SAY NO?
THIS AGAIN?
YOU'D BE GREAT AT IT, WITH HOW MUCH YOU CAN DRINK!
I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT!
chatter
I REALLY DON'T THINK I CAN DO IT
chatter
HE'S THE PRESIDENT OF SOME BIG COMPANY, AND LATELY HE'S BEEN TRYING TO GET ME TO WORK AT HIS COMPANY.
Wahaha!
HEY, COME WORK AT OUR COMPANY!
Stop making this so hard for me.
No, we really do need someone like you.
Hahaha
OH, RIGHT
KUROKAWA, ARE YOU FREE THIS SUNDAY?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT GIVING ME A REPLY RIGHT AWAY
I ALREADY REFUSED!
OKAY, SO COME TO MY PLACE.
WHAT? WELL, I HAVE A DAY OFF.

I DON'T THINK IT WOULD EVER HAPPEN TO ME
HEY, THIS IS A REALLY GOOD OPPORTU-
IS IT OKAY?
SPEND SOME TIME WITH HIM
KURO-KAWA, WHY DON'T YOU AGREE TO IT?
DRINKING BY MYSELF IS SO LONELY
COM ON KEEP ME COMPANY I'VE GOT LOTS OF GOOD WINE!
WHY?
YOU'RE SO NICE TO HIM PRESI-DENT
Haha
DELICIOUS WINE
WOW IN THE WINE
Sulp
I NEVER THOUGHT THINGS WOULD TURN OUT LIKE THIS A YEAR AGO
dirty
dirty
REALLY..?
OKAY!
Hahaha
BUT DON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT WORKING AT YOUR COM-PANY
OKAY?
OKAY FINE.

BAM
IT'S HUGE...!
WHAT KIND OF MANSION IS THIS!?
THAT OLD GUY'S REALLY THE PRESIDENT OF A BIG COMPANY?

I'm not at the wrong address right?
BUT THE SIGN REALLY SAYS 'SHIMANO'.
EXCUSE ME,
WHY ARE YOU STANDING IN FRONT OF MY HOUSE?

HEY!
rattle
creak
WE DON'T WANT ANY SOLICITORS, PLEASE LEAVE.
...
YOU'RE THE...YOUNG MASTER OF THE HOUSE?
Shave
WHO ARE YOU...?
HONK HONK

HEY HERE ALREADY, KUROKAWA?
HAHA, SORRY, SORRY
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU
Hahaha
THIS IS MY SON HAYATO
HE'S ONLY IN HIS FIRST YEAR AT SENIOR HIGH SO LOOK AFTER HIM.
HI THERE
LIKE I ACTUALLY WANT TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIM

...DAD,
I'M GOING UPSTAIRS.
OKAY.
This house is really so big it's ridiculous.
He's very well liked around here, huh? His grades are amazing!
IS IT JUST ME OR HAS HE BEEN GLARING AT ME THIS WHOLE TIME?
shake
shake
shake
SORRY ABOUT THAT HE WAS KIND OF RUDE
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
BUT ISN'T HE CUTE?
COM ON DRINK, DRINK!
OH, THANKS.
This is an overview of the company!
HEY.
LIVING IN SUCH A HUGE HOUSE...
THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME OVER TODAY
COME AGAIN SOMETIME
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T TALK ABOUT WORK

EH
Not your fault?
...YOU?
ARE YOU FREE TOMORROW?
WHAT?
I'M WORKING SO NOT UNTIL THE EVENING
OH
BYE
click
What the hell was that?

OH, RIGHT.
OKAY, I GET IT. I'LL HEAD BACK RIGHT AWAY.
RUMBLE
honk
chirp
.....
PUT ON A NEAT SUIT
AND GO TO WORK EVERY DAY?
CAN I/ REALLY DO IT?
AUGH FORGET IT ——
QUIT DREAMING!
NO, I SHOULD PROBABLY REFUSE

I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO RIGHT NOW.
AND I DON'T HAVE THE NERVE TO GO HOME
Curse T dont have a job
WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH THAT YESTERDAY?
AND JUST WHAT POWERS ITS USE?
WHAT DID HE WANT WITH ME?
AH?

WHY ARE YOU SITTING HERE?
?
?
.....
YOU?

WHA!?
YOU'RE SO SLOW!
!?
EH!?
I WAS GONNA HEAD HOME ALREADY!
It's so hot!

I HEARD FROM DAD THAT YOU LIVE NEARBY
I THOUGHT THAT SINCE YOU LIVE ALONE, YOU'D HEAD TO THE CONVENIENCE STORE SOONER OR LATER, SO I WAITED

I ACTUALLY HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU.

Waited for me?
?
You forgot!?
I HEARD YOU HAVE A DAY OFF TODAY!
SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD SEIZE THE OPPORTU-NITY

TELL ME!
HEY, WHY NOT?
NO REASON
I JUST WANT YOU TO KEEP ME COMPANY FOR A DAY!
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORK TODAY, RIGHT?
WHY SHOULD I KEEP YOU COMPANY?
I DON'T WANT TO WASTE TIME WITH SOME KID WHO SKIPPED CLASS!
I DIDN'T SKIP!
YOU DID TOO!
BECAUSE IF I WAS WITH YOU, THEN I'D HAVE AN EXCUSE IF ANYONE ASKS ME WHY I'M NOT IN SCHOOL!
YOU...
So that's just you're scheming?

WHAT THE HELL!?
I'LL SUE YOU.
IF YOU DON'T KEEP ME COMPANY
YOU SHOULDN'T WASTE MONEY LIKE THAT.
YOU SAID YOU'D PAY ME FOR IT, BUT THAT'S JUST MONEY YOUR DAD MADE!
BESIDES,
I'M NOT WASTING MONEY!
SO CAN'T YOU JUST FIND SOME OTHER TRUANTS?
I CAN'T ASK MY FRIENDS FOR THIS
GET YOUR ASS TO SCHOOL!
HOW DID IT
WAIT!
I'LL JUST GO SPEND ALL THE MONEY I WAS GOING TO GIVE YOU THEN
FORGET IT

LOOK!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
RUMBLE
BECOME LIKE THIS...?
clang clang
HEY
WHAT ARE YOU SO ANNOYED ABOUT?
YOU WERE JUST LUCKY
RUMBLE
AREN'T I AMAZING?
CLANG
I'M TIRED OF THIS
EH?
WHY'S HE SO CONFIDENT?
MORE RESPECT DAMMIT

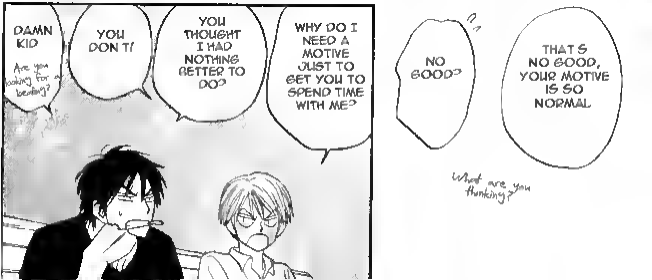
OK
ANNOYED
DON'T CALL ME THAT
YOUNG MASTER KIDS DON'T USUALLY LET AN ADULT TAG ALONG WHEN THEY SKIP CLASSES, DO THEY?
HEY,
OH, RIGHT, WHY WERE YOU GLARING AT ME YESTERDAY?
BECAUSE... I THOUGHT YOU WERE WEIRD.
SHUT UP!
WHAT, YOU DON'T LIKE IT, YOUNG MASTER?
It's like you don't realize
NOT CUTE AT ALL!
MOUNTAIN
LIKE A CAVEMAN WHO ESCAPED FROM THE MOUNTAINS
THIS KID'S NOT CUTE AT ALL
100 YEN
But he still went
Geez, you're so picky
I was curious
I had nothing but I've never gone in
Oh, I wanna go in there now!

SO HOT
ISN'T IT ALREADY SEPTEMBER?
WELL... WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO ABOUT IT?
IT'S TOO HOT.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST STAY AT HOME WHERE IT'S NICE AND COOL WITH THE AC ON AND DON'T LEAVE?
I KNOW! SHUT UP FOR A SECOND!
PHEW...
K's Art

I BET YOU ALWAYS HANG AROUND INDOORS WITH THE AC ON.
YOUR BODY'S REALLY WEAK, YOU KNOW.
WHOA!
THUD
I was trying to help
WOOO

SPOILED LITTLE BRAT...
UGH...
chirp
chirp
WHERE IS THIS?
CENTRAL PARK.
WHERE DID THIS HAND KERCHIEF COME FROM?
IT'S YOURS. DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE IT?
I took it from your pocket
WHAT?
.....

WHY DID YOU WANT ME TO SPEND TIME WITH YOU ANYWAY?
BECAUSE
I'M GOING TO BE INHERITING THE FAMILY BUSINESS IN THE FUTURE
SO I NEED TO EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT THINGS
YOU DON'T WANT TO INHERIT?
IT'S NOT THAT!
I WANT TO MAKE THE COMPANY BIGGER THAN EVER WHEN I TAKE IT ON
AH...
Ambitious
AND I WANT TO SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE WITH AN ORDINARY PERSON
I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE OF YOUR TYPE
ALL MY FRIENDS ARE LIKE ME
DON'T YOU KNOW? IT'S IMPORTANT TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT BACK-GROUNDS!
AH


DAMN KID
Are you looking for a beating?
YOU DON T!
YOU THOUGHT I HAD NOTHING BETTER TO DO?
WHY DO I NEED A MOTIVE JUST TO GET YOU TO SPEND TIME WITH ME?
NO GOOD?
THAT'S NO GOOD, YOUR MOTIVE IS SO NORMAL
What are you thinking?

LIKE YOU
WELL THAT'S RIGHT,
I'M ALSO...
I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE LIKE YOU.
I GUESS IT'S KIND OF INTERESTING
REALLY? BEING WITH ME IS A LOT OF FUN, RIGHT?
WHAT?
AH, NOTHING
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT
HUH? OKAY

I'LL BRING YOU PLACES
I THINK I'VE FOUND THE ONE I WAS LOOKING FOR
GO HOME LIKE A GOOD KID AND DON'T CRY, NOW.
WHO'S CRYING?
YOU SHOULD STOP SLACKING, TOO.
OF COURSE.
OKAY.

I'LL HIRE YOU, OKAY?
IF I BECOME COMPANY PRESIDENT,
HEY
YOU'RE SAYING YOU'RE GOING TO INHERIT THE COMPANY?
OF COURSE
HIS EYES WERE COMPLETELY FREE OF INDECISIVENESS
SO YOU HAVE TO WAIT FOR ME UNTIL I TAKE OVER
I GUESS HE WAS REALLY GIVING IT SERIOUS THOUGHT AT THE TIME

Come to my place sometime!
SO IN THE END...
WE ONLY SPENT HALF A DAY TOGETHER...
AH,
DAMNIT, IT'S SO LATE.
AM I REALLY GOING TO GO WORK AT THAT KID'S COMPANY?
CAN I REALLY DO IT?
PUT A SUIT ON AND GO TO WORK?
GET UP EAGLY EVERY MORNING,

THAT SEEMS INTERESTING
SHIMANO
I'D GET FIRED, RIGHT?
IF I CAN'T DO IT,
fwg
I GUESS I HAVE TO LEAVE NOW
SO SLEEPY
Inattent

I STILL WENT TO THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE ALL THE TIME
BUT THE LITTLE MASTER WAS ALWAYS BUSY AT CRAM SCHOOL, SO I NEVER SAW HIM
Perfect
OKAY!
AND IN THE TWO YEARS AFTER THAT,
RUMBLE
THREE YEARS LATER
HONK HONK
AH... I'M STILL NOT USED TO
WEARING A TIE
IT'S SO HOT
DAMN...

4月
9.30
SHIMANO HAYATO 16 YEARS OLD MALE
AH, YOU DROPPED SOMETHING
clink
OH SORRY
THANKS

YES?
?
Thud
HEY!
!?
Stare...
WHO?
DO YOU RECOGNIZE ME?
WELL,
UH
KUROKAWA-SAN
HEY, WAIT!
SORRY, I'M IN A HURRY.
I THINK YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG PERSON

SORRY FOR THE WAIT
OH
NAH I JUST GOT HERE, TOO
OH, HE LEFT
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING I JUST RAN INTO SOMEONE I KNEW
OH IS IT BECAUSE I CUT MY HAIR?
THE PRESIDENT SAYS I'VE CHANGED TOO
WHAT IS IT?
ARE YOU WAITING FOR SOMEONE?
IT'S NOTHING
I bet he forgot about me already
HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN?
FOUR YEARS? SIX YEARS?
I DION'T THINK WE D MEET AGAIN LIKE THIS

HE'LL BECOME SOMEONE REALLY CAPABLE
I THINK THAT IN A FEW YEARS,

AFTER THAT, HE SAW HIM AT THE STATION A LOT
Pretending to be cool
Giggle
Hahaa
Eek!
End

★AFTERWORD★
あ★と★が★き

■ Hi everyone, Natsume Isaku here! Thank you so much for buying this! I haven't had anything published in 'Dear' in a long time, drawing this series turned out to be so tiring. (always saying that)

But to be honest, drawing a longer story really is a lot of work (me and the editor are always laughing about it), to brainstorm for the plot, I—

- Thought about it while I was walking ← like back when I was in school
- Always burst out laughing out of nowhere ← and confuse everyone around me
- Kept a lot of ideas in my head ← nearly to bursting

So that's how it is.
A lot's happened during this time, hehe.

■ This is the first time I've done a long series, so it makes me very happy

■ I'm going to carry on with this story, isn't this couple kind of funny?

Please look forward to my future work!

Natsume Isaku ✱

Shimano was only in grade 1 when Kurokawa was in his second year of middle school (grade 9)

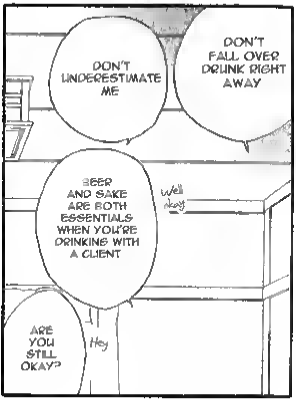
So it → would have looked like this

Special thanks:
Megu-chan,
A-san, sis,
thank you guys
so much.
♥

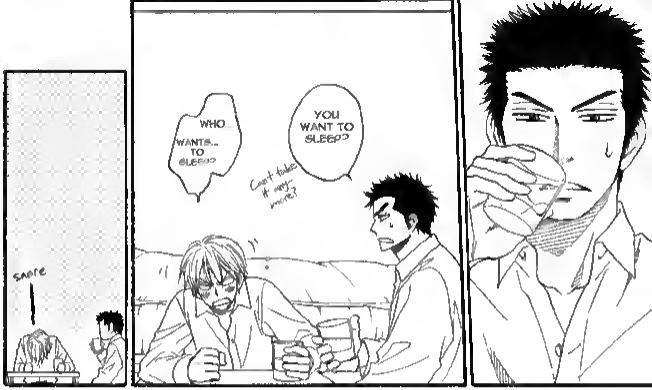
THIS TAKES PLACE IN CHAPTER TWO WHEN SHIMANO PASSED OUT DRUNK AND KUROKAWA CARRIED HIM BACK
OKAY, WE'RE LEAVING
The Princess' Gentle Knight Part 1
TA
DA
ARE YOU SURE?
I just don't get it
NAH, I'LL BE OKAY
SHOULD I GO WITH YOU GUYS?
I THOUGHT THEY WEREN'T GET ALONE...
Thank
Be careful
KUROKAWA-SAN JUST WANTS TO TAKE HIM HOME RIGHT?
Hurry and go!
Like a princess...

DON'T BE TOO ENVIOUS NOW
DON'T KID AROUND, YOU GUYS!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT
WE MIGHT HAVE TO TAKE A DAY OFF TOMORROW...
AND WHAT KUROKAWA SAID PUT A LOT OF PEOPLE'S MINDS IN THE GUTTER WHEN SHIMANO WENT TO WORK THE NEXT WEEK
No way was it that intense?
Gomez, my back is sore.
What?
What the hell did you say?
And I was trying to not be freaked out by how we suppressed Kurokawa-san?
Ah, well I really did want to do it when I first met her
End
DO YOUR BEST!
GO FOR IT, KURO KAWA-SAN!
Hahaha
Joking around
Hmm? Hesitate?
BYE NOW
Hahaha
Hahaha
SHIMANO AROUND
SHIMA AROUND
What?
No way!
TAKING IT SERIOUSLY

TADA
The Princess' Gentle Knight Part 2
I'LL HELP YOU TRAIN
Super Salaryman
YOUR ALCOHOL TOLERANCE IS TERRIBLE
YOU JUST WANT AN EXCUSE TO DRINK
No thanks
Rich kid→
I DIDN'T DRINK LIKE YOU GUYS DID
JUST BEER AND STUFF
We were all athletic types
I USED TO HAVE DRINKING CONTESTS ALL THE TIME WHEN I WAS IN SCHOOL.
COM ON
TADA
朝


DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME
DON'T FALL OVER DRUNK RIGHT AWAY
BEER AND SAKE ARE BOTH ESSENTIALS WHEN YOU'RE DRINKING WITH A CLIENT
Well okay
ARE YOU STILL OKAY?
Hey

30 MINUTES LATER.


WHO WANTS... TO SLEEP?
YOU WANT TO SLEEP?
Can't make it any more?
sapre

I CAN'T SLEEP
sapre
HUFF

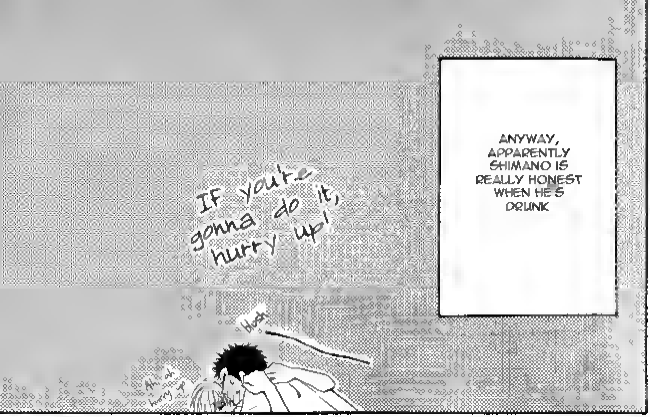
HA
OKAY, LET'S GO TO BED.

COME ON?
I'M NOT ASLEEP YOU KNOW
YEAH, YEAH
creak
OH
what is with this guy?
QUIT MESSING AROUND
YOU DON'T WANT TO ? COME ON
creak
BUT I WANT TO

What now?
OH,
YOU'RE REALLY DRUNK, HUH?
SO DO YOU WANT TO OR NOT?
CRACK
Ahh
HA
HM...

creak
NO
—N—
creak
YOU
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID YOU WANTED TO DO IT
How dare you?
I DON'T WANT TO— HAVE MY BACK FACING YOU
I WANT TO— LOOK AT YOU
kiss
creak

ACK
HEY,
WHAT'S WITH... YOU,
THIS WAY, WE CAN KISS
HM.
crash
WHAT?
WHAT?
Doesn't get it.
Where you two before too?
YOU DON'T GET ALL HORNY WITH EVERYONE WHENEVER YOU'RE DRUNK, DO YOU?
DUMBASS
I'D ONLY BE LIKE THIS TO YOU, OF COURSE



AH YOUR ALCOHOL TOLERANCE REALLY DOES SUCK
REMEMBER TO SCOLD ME IF YOU'RE GOING TO GO DRINKING
YESTERDAY AFTER I DRANK WHAT HAPPENED?
How did this happen?
Remember
SCOLD
SCOLD

End

Even though he tries not to drink too much anymore, stuff like this still happens.

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Secondary QC	Aeri